Wednesday
7th April, 1954

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

OFFICIAL REPORT

(Part I- Questions and Answers)

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THE Dated 01.12.2014
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Wednesday, the 7th April, 1954.

The House met at two of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

SALT

*1625. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state what decision has been arrived at on the recommendation of the Commodities Control Committee for abolition of the nominee system wherever it exists and for the provision of free import of salt?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Production (Shri R. G. Dubey): The concerned State Governments have been consulted on the lines recommended by the Commodity Controls Committee and a decision will be taken on receipt of replies from all the States.

Shri Jhulan Sinha: May I know if, in view of the continued exploitation of the consumers in areas where this system prevails, Government consider it desirable to come to a speedy conclusion in the matter?

Shri R. G. Dubey: That is what I said. Actually, Government have been handling the matter expeditiously. We have called for urgent replies from the State Governments, and some of the State Governments, for instance Vindhya Pradesh, Madhya Bharat and Himachal Pradesh, have already sent replies.

Shri Jhulan Sinha: When were the other Governments approached in the matter?

Shri R. G. Dubey: I believe it was in the month of February that a communication was addressed to the State Governments.

Shrimati A. Kale: May I know whether we are self-sufficient in salt or whether we have to import?

Shri R. G. Dubey: No Sir, we are self-sufficient.

सेठ अचल सिंह : क्या मंत्री महोदय को यह मालूम है कि अब भी उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ने नमक पर मनोपली कायम कर रखी है ?

श्री आर० जी० दुबे : उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ने मनोपली कायम कर रखी है, इसके बारे में उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार के पास से सूचना मंगवाई गई है ।

TELEPHONE CABLES

*1626. **Shri Radha Raman:** Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the factory to produce telephone cables has since gone into production; and

(b) from which country these cables are being imported at present?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Production (Shri R. G. Dubey): (a) Yes. The factory has just been commissioned for production and

trial production of unarmoured cable has commenced.

(b) Germany, Japan, England, Italy and Holland.

Shri Radha Raman: What is our total requirement of telephone cables, and what portion of this requirement will be met by this factory?

Shri R. G. Dubey: The estimates were prepared in 1949-50 of cables. At that time it was felt that we would require 469 miles. The present estimates are of the order of 660 miles. We propose to produce of the order of 470 miles.

Shri Radha Raman: May I know how long Government will take to make India self-sufficient in the production of telephone cables?

Shri R. G. Dubey: So far as government requirements are concerned, it is 660 miles of cables. I have no idea whether telephone cables are required by other concerns. But this much I can say that so far as the government requirements are concerned, in the very near future we shall be able to satisfy the demand.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या कम्यूनिकेशन्स मिनिस्ट्री ने टेलिफोन्स के लिये जितने केबुल की जरूरत होती है, उस की रिक्वायरमेन्ट मिनिस्ट्री आफ प्रोडक्शन के पास भेजी है ? यदि हां, तो इस के सम्बन्ध में मिनिस्ट्री क्या कर रही है ?

श्री आर० जी० दुबे : मैं ने कहा कि कम्यूनिकेशन्स मिनिस्ट्री ने यह बताया है कि उन को करीब करीब ६६० मील तक के केबल सालाना चाहियें । इस के बारे में प्रोडक्शन मिनिस्ट्री सोच विचार कर रही है । जो हमारी मौजूदा कैपेसिटी है वह ४७० मील की है । हम सोच रहे हैं कि जो हमारी फैक्ट्री है उसी में कुछ रद्दो बदल कर के इस प्रोडक्शन को एक्सपेंड कर सकें तो अच्छा है ।

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know what is the difference in price between the imported and the indigenous cables?

Shri R. G. Dubey: I am sorry I am not in a position to state that.

Coffee Estates

*1627. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) how many coffee estates are interplanted with orange trees, cardamom and pepper vines;

(b) whether these interplanted estates are more profitable;

(c) whether any special variety of coffee is required for interplantation;

(d) whether any attempts have been made to cultivate coffee in areas other than the southern part of India; and

(e) if so, with what results?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). Precise information is not available.

(d) and (e). Attempts were made to grow coffee in certain parts of Bihar, West Bengal (bordering on the East Bengal), Assam and in scattered patches in Upper Madhya Pardesh, Orissa and Andhra States. The results were not found encouraging.

श्री एस० सी० सामन्त : क्या यह बात सच नहीं है कि ग्रंडमन्स में जो फारेस्ट्स हैं उन में काफी वाइल्डली ग्रो होती है ?

श्री करमरकर : इस का मुझे पता नहीं ।

श्री एस० सी० सामन्त : क्या यह बात सच नहीं है कि हिमालन रैन्ज में यह काफी ग्रो हो सकती है ?

श्री करमरकर : हिमालय में टी ग्रो कर सकते हैं, काफ़ी कर सकते हैं या नहीं, यह मुझे नहीं मालूम ।

Shri Barman: May I know in which year the experiments on coffee plantation in West Bengal had been commenced?

Shri Karmarkar: I have not got the year with me. I would like to have notice.

Shri V. P. Nayar: The hon. Minister said that some attempts were made to grow coffee in Bihar and other places. May I know whether any attempts were made at the instance of the Government of India to evolve new varieties of coffee which will resist the vicissitudes of climate and, if so, what were the results?

Shri Karmarkar: I have no information on that point.

BICYCLE INDUSTRY

*1628. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any subsidy has been given to any of the cycle factories started in India during the post-war period: and

(b) the total amount of capital invested in this enterprise?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Precise information is not available. The capital invested in the organised section is about Rs. 1·5 crores.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know what part of this amout of capital is foreign and what part Indian?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachri: I have no information.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know what attempt is made to bring the indigenous cycle manufacture to the level of the foreign cycle manufacture?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: As a matter of fact, the cycles that are manufactured in India are as good as the foreign cycles.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know how much of foreign capital is invested in the cycle industry in India; and how much of it is British capital?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have no information.

Shri Meghnad Saha: May I know whether any complaint has been received from the cycle industry that they cannot manufacture properly on account of the dearth of steel?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Not in those precise terms, Sir.

EVACUEE PROPERTY

*1629. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation for the postponement of action on disposal of evacuee mortgaged property till a final decision has been taken on all the evacuee properties; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken on the representation?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): (a) and (b). Yes, certain representations were received though they did not specifically relate to mortgaged property. As the postponement of separation of evacuee and non-evacuee interests would have retarded the scheme of the Act and as, in any case, the allottees will not be dispossessed, the suggestion for postmonement was not accepted.

Shri Gidwani: Have Government information whether the same rents that were being charged by the Custodian are being charged now or whether enhanced rents are charged?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: I cannot say. Once the property is purchased, the normal tenancy rules prevail.

POWER SUPPLY FROM TILAYA AND BOKARO

*1630. **Shri B. K. Das:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) the loads developed in the Tilaya and Bokaro plants in the Damodar Valley Project;

(b) the agencies utilising the power; and

(c) the rate at which it is being supplied?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Tilaiya 875KW; Bokaro 2600KW.

(b) and (c). A statement giving the information required is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 50]

Shri B. K. Das: May I know how much power is being added to the grid from Sindri?

Shri Hathi: 23,000 KW.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know whether the full demand is being met by the power stations at Tilaya and Bokaro?

Shri Hathi: Yes, the full demand is being met by these stations.

Shri B. K. Das: How does this grid rate compare with the grid rates in other parts of the country?

Shri Hathi: I have not got with me figures for the other stations.

Shri P. C. Bose: May I know whether any arrangement is made to supply electricity to villages at a cheap rate for developing village industries and for pumping irrigation water?

Shri Hathi: The D.V.C., as a rule, does not supply power in small bulk. It is the big consumers, the Bihar Government or other industries, that have to purchase in bulk.

CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY FROM U.S.A.

*1631. **Shri Kelappan:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some construction machinery have been received from the U.S.A. under the Indo-U.S. Technical Co-operation Agreement for the Hirakud, Kakrapar, Mahi and Ghataprabha Projects;

(b) if so, the specification and details of the machinery and equipment received under this Aid; and

(c) the machinery to be obtained through the Director-General of Supplies and Disposals for the above purpose?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). All indents are placed on the Director General of Supplies and Disposals who calls for tenders on a global basis. A statement giving the details is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 51]

Shri Kelappan: I want to know if any equipment was received direct from the Indo-U.S. Technical Co-operation Administration, other than through the Director-General of Supplies?

Shri Hathi: The procedure is, generally for our requirements, whatever they are, we place orders and the payment is made from this aid.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether actually global tenders are invited when such orders are placed in all cases?

Shri Hathi: That is my information —that global tenders are invited.

Shri Kelappan: The Director-General expressed some difficulty in complying with this demand. I do not know if those difficulties were overcome and all the equipment was supplied.

Shri Hathi: Unless I know the specific difficulty which the hon. Member refers to, it will not be possible for me to reply.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know whether it is a fact that the Director-General of Supplies has bought spare parts for machinery which is not in use and which is rusting in the stalls?

Shri Hathi: That does not arise from this question at least.

DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FOR BICYCLE INDUSTRY

*1632. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether a Development Council for the bicycle industry has been set up?

(b) If so, has any meeting of the Council been held?

(c) What were the decisions arrived at the meeting of the Council?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Kirshnamachari): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, one meeting in January, 1954.

(c) A statement showing the decision reached is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 52.]

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the sub-committees appointed by the Development Council on the 30th January have submitted their reports and if they have not done so, by what time they are going to do so?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I believe they have not submitted their report. No target date has been fixed for the submission of the report.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if any attempt has been made to enquire into the labour conditions of the workers in these cycle factories?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The Council itself was constituted and met in January. I do not think they have addressed themselves to this task as yet.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know what the functions of the small scale units are going to be in this industry and how they are going to be coordinated with the bigger industries?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am afraid it is a trifle premature. The Development Council will have to work for some more time before we can see the picture clearer before us.

Shri V. P. Nayar: From the statement I find that the function of supervising over the labour conditions is not specifically given to any of the sub-committees, but instead a member of the third sub-committee is asked to carry on and see the various factors. May I know why it is so?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The decision has been made not by Government but by the Development Council. I cannot go into the various factors that made them decide in the manner in which they have done.

KONAR PROJECT

*1633. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the postponement of the hydro-electric part of the Konar Project; and

(b) the progress made on the irrigational side of the said Project?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) it was not included in the first five year plan on account of the expectation that sufficient power for the Plan period would be available from the Bokaro Thermal Station, Tilaiya & Sindhri.

(b) Waters stored will be utilised for irrigation from the next season.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know whether there is any definite policy regarding the phasing of the power part of the various projects?

Shri Hathi: The phasing of the power part depends on the needs of the particular area.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know whether any special efforts are made to popularise the use of power in the areas where we have these river valley projects?

Shri Hathi: Generally, load surveys are being made and so far as these three projects are concerned, there is going to be no difficulty so far as the utilisation of power is concerned.

Shri S. N. Das: What is the nature of the irrigation that will be carried on through this reservoir at Konar?

Shri Hathi: It will be flow irrigation.

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : इस बांध से कितनी जमीन की सिंचाई होगी, और इस के लिये चैनेल वगैरह बनाने का काम सब पूरा हो गया है या नहीं ?

Shri Hathi: Before the Durgapur barrage is constructed the waters will pass through the existing canal —the Anderson canal—and 16,000 acres of *aus* crop and 20,000 acres of *rabi* crop will be irrigated this season.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether all the energy generated by the Damodar Valley Corporation has been consumed by the industries or sold to electric supply corporations and such other bulk purchasers?

Mr. Speaker: I think he has answered it a number of times.

Shri Hathi: I have not followed it actually.

Shri K. K. Basu: My question is whether the electrical energy generated by the Damodar Valley Corporation so far has been consumed by the industries or had it to be sold to bulk purchasers like the Calcutta Chemical Corporation?

Shri Hathi: I have replied that there are bulk consumers. The Bihar Government distributes to the small industries.

India's Foreign Trade

*1634. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the value of India's foreign (sea and airborne) trade during the latter half of the year 1953-54 on (i) Government account, and (ii) private account?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): A statement is laid on the table of the House. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 53.]

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether Government maintain any account of imports and exports made on Government's behalf?

Shri Karmarkar: Not since 1948.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: What is the reason for not maintaining it?

Shri Karmarkar: The reason is, it is not necessary.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The statement shows there has been some surplus in export trade. May I know whether the surplus is due to the increase in exports or because of the increase in the value of the exports?

Shri Karmarkar: I have not the information on hand. My hon. friend can easily find it out by a reference to our monthly publication known as *Overseas Trade*, copies of which are available in the library of the House.

जहाज निर्माण

*१३३५. **श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :**
श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी :

क्या उत्पादन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि पंचवर्षीय योजना में जहाज निर्माण का जो लक्ष्य निश्चित किया गया है उस का कितना प्रतिशत भाग पूरा हुआ है ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Production (Shri R. G. Dubey): 36 per cent.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि शिप बिल्डिंग के सिलसिले में जितने इस्पात की जरूरत होती है, क्या वह हम को पूरी तरह मिल जाता है और कारीगरों को खाली नहीं बैठना पड़ता है ?

श्री आर० जी० दुबे : स्टील के बारे में जो हमारी जरूरतें हैं वह पूरी तौर से इस देश में नहीं पूरी होती हैं, इस के लिये हमें इम्पोर्ट करना पड़ता है ।

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : मैं ने जो सवाल किया था वह यह था कि साल भर हमारे कारीगर खाली बैठे रहते थे, और बीच बीच में उन को काम मिल जाता था क्योंकि हमारी पूरी आवश्यकता के लिये आयरन शीट नहीं मिलती हैं, तो क्या इस का कोई इन्तजाम किया गया है कि उन को साल भर बराबर काम मिलता रहे ?

श्री आर० जी० दुबे : जहां तक मुझे मालूम है यह मुसीबत आजकल नजर नहीं आती ।

Shri Joachim Alva: Is it true that there is not a single Indian shipping company owning ships of the speed of 20 knots, nay, 17 knots, and do Government propose to issue directions to the companies in regard to having ships with 20 knots?

Shri R. G. Dubey: I am not in a position to answer this question.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : मैं जानना चाहता था कि १९५१ और १९५३ के बीच में हमारे शिप बिल्डिंग यार्ड में कितने जहाज बनाये गये, और सरकार द्वारा शिपयार्ड के लेने के बाद फाइव इयर प्लैन के अन्तर्गत जितने जहाज बनाने का प्रोग्राम रखा गया था उस में कोई परिवर्तन हुआ है ?

श्री आर० जी० दुबे : १९५१ और १९५३ के बीच में मेरे खयाल से "जलपालक", "जलपुत्र", "जगरानी", "जलप्रताप" और "जलपुष्पा" इतने जहाज बनाये गये हैं ।

FLOOD RELIEF WORKS IN MANIPUR

*1636. **Shri L. Jogeswar Singh:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have sanctioned any amount for test relief work in the flood-affected areas of Manipur;

(b) if so, how much;

(c) the nature of the works to be undertaken in this behalf;

(d) whether the test relief work has started;

(e) the areas expected to be covered by this scheme; and

(f) the number of people expected to be engaged in this work?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 1·48 lakhs.

(c) Repairs to breaches and strengthening the existing embankments.

(d) Sanction is effective for the financial year 1954-55 beginning from the 1st April 1954.

(e) A statement giving the requisite information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 54.]

(f) About 300 men on an average for about six months.

Shri L. Jogeswar Singh: May I know whether there is any possibility of completing the work before another flood comes?

Shri Hathi: The works are likely to be continued for about six months and it may be possible to check the floods with these measures.

Shri L. Jogeswar Singh: Out of the labourers to be engaged in this work, how many will be women labourers, and are there any facilities for these women labourers?

Shri Hathi: As I said, the sanction is to be effective from 1st April. The works must have commenced or will commence now. It has been sanctioned only just now and the matter rests with the Manipur Government. I cannot give a definite reply about the number of labourers and all these things, as I have no information.

TEA BOARD

*1637. **Shri Ramananda Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the first attempt of the Central Tea Board to open a centre for foreign propaganda at Geneva has been a failure and the Board have sustained a heavy loss thereon?

(b) If so, what action was taken in the matter?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). The Tea Board purchased the right to continue the lease of a premises called "Splendid" in Geneva in September, 1952. On investigations made by Government, it was found not economical to run this as a purely Tea room for propaganda purposes and it has been decided to dispose of the lease rights. Action in this direction has been initiated and it is hoped to sell out the lease rights as quickly as possible. It is not possible to estimate the loss that would result at this stage.

Shri Ramananda Das: May I know the total expenditure incurred in this connection?

Shri Karmarkar: The amount paid for the purchase of the right to continue the lease was 390,000 francs.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know whether it is a fact that a Tea Mission has been sent abroad to study the market and popularise our tea?

Shri Karmarkar: A mission is different from a tea room.

EXPORT OF ANIMALS

*1638. **Shri Muniswamy:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export of living animals from India to the USSR is one of the items of the trade agreement between the two countries;

(b) what kind of animals are to be exported from India;

(c) the annual number of animals to be sent; and

(d) from which parts of the country the largest number of animals are being exported?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Mostly animals required for Zoological gardens.

(c) There are no quantitative commitments under the agreement.

(d) This will depend on the type of animals that the U.S.S.R. Government will be interested in procuring.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know in what kind of animals the Russians are mostly interested?

Shri Karmarkar: I am no authority on that subject.

Mr. Speaker: I think we will go to the next question.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES STUDY TEAM TO JAPAN

*1639. **Shri Sinhasan Singh:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to send any team of experts to Japan for a study of cottage industries and their development;

(b) if so, who are the persons, selected; and

(c) how they were chosen and at whose recommendation?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Yes, Sir. The matter is under consideration.

(b) and (c). No definite decision has yet been taken about the composition of the team.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: May I know the basis for selection of this team; whether the previous experience of men doing cottage industries work will be the principle, or men from the service class will be sent there?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The Government's mind at the moment is directed towards sending people

who would be useful in respect of this work later on in the States.

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether it is a fact that about three years back, the Government of Bombay sent a delegation to Japan for study of cottage industries, and that delegation has submitted a report which has been published by the Government of Bombay?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Yes, I think they sent a one-man delegation.

Shri Barman: May I know what benefit the country has derived from the earlier missions that had been sent to Japan and from the cottage industry instruments that have been brought from Japan to India?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: May be that no benefit has been derived so far, but it is hoped that some benefit will be derived from this delegation which is going.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the experience gained by the experts who were sent to Japan both by the Commence and Industry and Rehabilitation Ministries is not sufficient in the opinion of the Government, and for this reason Government is intending to send a fresh delegation?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The answer is in the affirmative.

ALLOTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS TO DISPLACED PERSONS

*1640. **Shri Shobha Ram:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) what are the guiding principles in allotting agricultural land to displaced persons against their verified claims;

(b) whether this allotment will be in cancellation of the previous allotments; and

(c) if so, to what extent?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): (a) to (c). Available agricultural lands outside Punjab and Pepsu are being allotted to non-Punjabi dispaced persons with verified land claims generally on the lines of the quasi-permanent allotment scheme of Punjab & PEPSU. Previous allotments made to displaced persons are not intended to be cancelled but in some cases in which the allottee is not self-cultivating the land allotted to him and did not own any land in West Pakistan, allotments may have to be cancelled.

Shri Shobha Ram: May I know the principle adopted in the State of Rajasthan?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: Those who are non-displaced persons and those who were landless in Pakistan and are not cultivating the land will naturally be dispossessed of the lands allotted: otherwise it stands just the same.

Shri Shobha Ram: It has been brought to my notice that in view of the fresh claims there has been a stir among the local allottees. I want to know what are the guiding principles in the revision of the allotments now?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: The stir is only among about 1,200 persons whose lands have been cancelled. They have been cancelled because they are not displaced persons, or are not self-cultivating and therefore they have no claims.

Shri Shobha Ram: May I know whether the Government has taken into account how far this revision of allotment will disturb the local persons as allottees of the land?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: These are evacuee lands and local persons have no claim on them.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether it has come to the notice of the Government that quite a number of displaced persons—Punjabis and those of Punjabi extraction who were allotted land in Rajasthan, but who have some allotment here in Punjab as well, were asked to get

the allotments in Punjab cancelled in order that they may maintain their allotments in Rajasthan; and now that they have got their allotments in Punjab cancelled, they are not getting those allotments in Rajasthan?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: They would certainly get allotments in Rajasthan if their allotments in Punjab are cancelled within time.

COMMITTEES ATTACHED TO A.I.R. STATION

*1641. **Shri K. K. Basu:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any non-official expert committee is attached to each Broadcasting Station to draw up music programmes;

(b) whether any standard for selection of musicians or singers has been laid down; and

(c) whether Calcutta Station has any committee on Rabindra music?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) There are no non-official expert committees at any Broadcasting Station for preparing music programmes. That work is entrusted to experts who are appointed as Advisers or Supervisors. But in every programme Advisory Committee attached to Stations, at least two or three experts on music are included and they are expected to help the Station by advice regarding matters connected with music.

(b) It is not possible to lay down any particular and hard and fast standard for selection of musicians, but general lines have been laid down for the various categories of music. Audition Commitees composed of experts on music have also been appointed at most of the Stations to help in the selection.

(c) There is no special committees for Rabindra Sangeet at Calcutta. But the Local Audition Committee at Calcutta contains a well-known authority on Rabindra Sangeet.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know the name of the person who is connected in the Calcutta Station so far as the selection of Rabindra *sangeet* is concerned?

Dr. Keskar: His name is Mr. Shanti Deb Ghosh.

Shri K. K. Basu: Is the Government aware that a well-known musician named Shrimati Suchita Mishra has been dropped from the list of selected musicians for the last several months, and if so, may I know the reason therefor?

Dr. Keskar: If the hon. Member passes on the information to me in writing, I will look into it.

Diwan Raghavendra Rao: May I know if the personnel designed for such duties is chosen from particular schools of music?

Dr. Keskar: I do not understand.

Diwan Raghavendra Rao: By school I mean *Gharana*.

Dr. Keskar: I do not think Rabindra *sangeet* is a *Gharana*, but it is certainly a school of music.

EMPLOYEES OF RAILWAY COLLIERIES

*1642. **Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state what steps will be taken to protect the continuity of service and the service conditions of the staff when the ownership of the Railway collieries is transferred to his Ministry?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Production (Shri R. G. Dubey): The ownership of the Railway Collieries has since been transferred to the Ministry of Production from 1-4-1954. The continuity of service of the staff and their existing terms and conditions of service will remain unaffected. The details for giving effect to this decision are being worked out in consultation with the Ministry of Railways.

Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha: I understand that the Railway Board had last year taken a decision that the services of the railway employees lent to the Ministry of Production will be considered to be borrowed services and that they will be governed by railway rules. May I know whether Government propose to stick to that principle even now?

Shri R. G. Dubey: This question was raised in the course of the discussion. The Railway Ministry, obviously, will not be able to bear the expenses in maintaining the same conditions hereafter. So, the suggestion has been made that the Production Ministry should make a lump sum payment to the Railway Ministry and the matter would be settled.

Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha: May I know whether Government proposes to collect the views of the representatives of the employees before it comes to any understanding or conclusion in the matter?

Shri R. G. Dubey: The details regarding the formal management and other matters are under consideration. I am not sure, but I believe that the local officials will take care to see that the views of the employees' representatives are taken into consideration.

Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha: I understand that contract system has also been abolished with effect from 1st April. I want to know in this connection whether the staff of the contractors has been absorbed by the Government, or whether it will be absorbed by the Governmnt and if so on what terms and conditions?

Shri R. G. Dubey: So far as details of this question are concerned, I will require a separate notice.

Shri P. C. Bose: May I know if it is a fact that the lower grade employees are getting their amenities according to colliery rules and the upper grade staff according to railway rules?

Shri R. G. Dubey: So far as the railway employees are concerned, those who were taken into service prior to 1944 will be receiving these benefits.

HIRAKUD DAM

*1643. **Shri Sarangadhar Das:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) whether in accordance with the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the Hirakud Dam Project in 1948, any afforestation work has been carried out in the catchment area; and

(b) if not, when Government propose to initiate this work?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). A scheme has been prepared by the Government of Orissa which is under the consideration of the Government of India in consultation with the Planning Commission.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know if any approach has been made to the Madhya Pradesh Government to start this work as early as possible?

Shri Hathi: The Planning Commission is taking up this matter with the Madhya Pradesh Government.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: Do Government consider that the delay of so many years is likely to deposit more silt than if the re-affrestation work had been done earlier?

Shri Hathi: Government appreciate that this matter should receive immediate attention and that before water is being stored, something should be done. That is being done.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: Will Government consider the advisability of pointing out to the Madhya Pradesh Government that it is to their own benefit also inasmuch as soil erosion will be prevented?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri K. K. Basu: In view of the seriousness of the situation, may I

know whether the Government propose to take up this matter as quickly as possible, within the current financial year?

Shri Hathi: That is exactly what I have said. It is receiving the attention of Government. Because the catchment area lies also in Madhya Pradesh, the Planning Commission has taken up the matter. We are proceeding with it.

RAIDS ON KUTCH BORDER

*1644. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the total number of raids (i) by dacoits and (ii) by smugglers along the land border of Kutch during the current year?

(b) How many of them were combated by the police?

(c) How many police posts are maintained along this border and what is its total length?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) and (b). During 1954, there has so far been only one raid by dacoits. The police were not able to intercept the raiders in this case.

(c) The total length of the border is approximately 514 miles. There are 11 police posts on the border.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: What was the probable loss of property?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: In this particular case of this year's dacoity, I have not got the figures.

Shri Joachim Alva: Have the lines of security on the Cutch-Saurashtra border adjoining Pakistan been reviewed and strengthened after the U. S. Pact with Pakistan?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): No review has taken place.

EXPORTS FROM ANDHRA

*1645. **Shri Eswara Reddi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Andhra State have requested the Union Government to facilitate the export of onion, *gur* and ground-nut oil in view of the slump in the local market and the accumulation of large stocks of these commodities?

(b) If so, what is the decision of Government in this regard and what reply has been sent?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) So far as groundnut oil is concerned, it has been decided not to allow any export at present and the Andhra Government have been informed accordingly. With regard to the other commodities, a decision has not yet been reached.

Shri Eswara Reddi: May I know whether the Government propose to fix fair prices for commercial crops such as onion, groundnut and *gur* so that the peasants may sell them at adequate prices and the speculators, foreign businessmen and big business may not lower the prices during the harvest season?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachai: The matter can be considered if we decide upon exports.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether the Andhra Government has approached the Central Government asking permission for the export of onions, chillies, etc., and whether any decision has been taken upon that matter?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The question really relates to the same subject matter covered by the one which the hon. Member has now put. The answer was that no decision has yet been reached.

Shri K. K. Basu: Arising out of the answer to part (b) of the question, in view of the fact that a large accumulation of such stocks may lead to a slump in the market, may we know whether the Government propose to either allow Government purchase or give some sort of price

protection so that the people may not be adversely affected?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Government are not prepared to grant the assumption behind the question.

Some hon. Members *rose*—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I am going to the next question.

DISPLACED PERSONS CAMPS

*1647. **Shri K. R. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government suffered a loss of over Rs. 11 lakhs due to the issue of rations free and on unauthorised ration cards in the displaced persons camps;

(b) if so, what action Government have taken against the officers responsible for this loss to Government;

(c) the names of the commandants of the camps; and

(d) the duration and strength of all the camps?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): (a) Yes; there was a loss of over Rs. 11 lakhs in respect of rations issued on unauthorised ration cards at Relief Camp Kurukshetra.

(b) It was not practicable to prevent the issue of unauthorised ration cards in Kurukshetra which had at the time a population of about three lakhs and particularly when the population was constantly changing by influx of new refugees from Pakistan and efflux of some of the inmates of Kurukshetra Camp to other places. The main function of Government at the time was to provide food, shelters and medical treatment to the displaced persons, who after having lost all they possessed were completely unhinged. It was difficult in the earlier stages to observe the normal checks to safeguard against losses on account of unathorised drawal of rations. Consequently responsibility could not be fixed against individual officers. Subsequently, however, specific instructions were issued by the Ministry to the State Governments to prevent further losses of this kind.

(c) Lt. Col. N. D. Puri.

(d) From September 1947 to April 1950, the population of Kurukshetra Camp ranged between two to three lakhs.

RETRENCHMENT IN STATIONERY OFFICE CALCUTTA

*1648. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of junior clerks of the Government Stationery Office in Calcutta have been served with retrenchment notices on the 1st March, 1954;

(b) whether it is a fact that most of these clerks have put in continuous service since 1942 and have been granted quasi-permanent status; and

(c) whether any steps are being taken by Government in response to the representation made in this behalf by the Employees Association of this Stationery Office?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Is it not a fact that a number of these employees had put in nearly 12 years of work and they had acquired quasi-permanent status and had been given the assurance that they would have more or less the same privileges as the permanent incumbents?

Sardar Swaran Singh: There are three parts in the question. Some of them have become quasi-permanent. Some of them have put in about 11

or 12 years of service. When an employee is made quasi-permanent, there is nothing held out to him that he will have the same privileges as are enjoyed by permanent government servants.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: May I know why there was no reason given in the retrenchment notices, specially in view of the fact that the employees complained of arrears of work accumulating and there being need for a greater number of personnel?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I am afraid the hon. Member's information on that point is not quite correct. As a matter of fact, this matter has been pending for some years. Notice was given in the middle of 1952 when the employees moved the Calcutta High Court asking for a stay of the implementation of the retrenchment notices. In December, 1953, the Calcutta High Court vacated the injunction order. Afterwards, these notices have been given. These notices were given in pursuance of the recommendations made by a Committee which had been set up to look into the working of the organisation. This has been resorted to in order to improve efficiency. But, I may assure this hon. House that efforts are being made to find some alternative employment for these employees.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: May I know why the Government did not choose to consult the Committee called the Better Relations Committee which has been set up by the Association of employees and their departments?

Sardar Swaran Singh: There was no point. Because this decision was being taken in pursuance of the recommendations of a Committee which had already gone thoroughly into the various aspects, I do not know what purpose would have been served by consulting the Better Relations Committee. Now that these people chose to go to the court, the decision of the court is there that the orders were properly served on them. In spite of that, we are making very serious efforts to find some alternative employment for them.

Salt Cess

*1649. **Shri Natesan:** Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state the total amount of cess collected on salt during 1952-53 and 1953-54?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Production (Shri R. G. Dubey):

1952-53	..	Rs. 96,11,000
1953-54 (Up to end of February 1954)	..	Rs. 84,88,500

Shri Natesan: What proportion of this cess has so far been spent on salt industry?

Shri R. G. Dubey: I could not say offhand how much out of the cess has been spent on the salt industry, because I have not got that information with me just now. But I could give some idea about the development programme. Rs. 1 lakh is proposed to be spent at Kharagoda, and there are certain other items spread over in the States of Bombay, Madras etc.

Shri Natesan: May I know whether the remaining portion of the cess collected goes to the general revenues?

Shri R. G. Dubey: Yes. The salt cess that is collected goes into the Consolidated Fund of India.

Shrimati A. Kale: May I know whether Government have taken any steps to utilise the salt water that is flowing day and night, now going waste in Himachal Pradesh?

Shir R. G. Dubey: I have no information on that point. But only this morning, some hon. Members of this House who visited Mandi recently have brought this to our notice. I am sure the Ministry will consider this question.

IMPORT OF RAW SISAL

*1650. **Shri G. L. Chaudhary:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state how much raw-sisal was imported from East Africa during 1953-54?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): Import of raw sisal is allowed under Open General Licence. Since imports of raw sisal are not recorded separately in the Customs Returns, it is not possible to furnish information with regard to import of this commodity from East Africa during 1953-54.

REGIONAL NEWS BULLETINS

*1651. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) which A.I.R. stations broadcast regional news bulletins; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to have such bulletins broadcast from all the radio stations in India?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) Regional news bulletins are being broadcast from Lucknow and Nagpur. Similar service will be started at Bombay from 15th of April, 1954 and at Calcutta and Madras from the 1st of May, 1954.

(b) Yes.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know when the benefits of this service will be extended to the other radio stations in India?

Dr. Keskar: Very soon, I expect. This service was first started only as an experimental measure, because we did not want to invest a lot of money and start a service, which, at the initial stage, might take, from want of experience, some kind of readjustment. We therefore began it only in one or two stations, and the experiment has succeeded. We have now proposed to open three of four more such regional news bulletin centres, and I hope very soon it will be extended to all the stations which are State headquarters.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Is it not a fact that in these regional news broadcasts, more attention is given to local and sectional news, rather than to news of all-India importance?

Dr. Keskar: Not to sectional news, but certainly to regional news, because the regional news bulletin is meant for the regional news. News of an all-India character is broadcast in all languages from here, and it is picked up by most of the stations concerned.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether these news items are collected through A.I.R.'s own organisation, or through the news agencies, or through other governmental sources?

Dr. Keskar: We propose to have our own people at most of these centres. They have not yet been appointed, but wherever we have these centres, we propose to have our own men. We have, for instance, one correspondent at Lucknow, and another at Nagpur. At the other three centres that we propose to have, we intend appointing our own men. In addition, the local agency coverage will also be used.

GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

*1652. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Geographical Society of India is planning an expedition to the northern frontiers of India in order to map the uncharted parts of that region; and

(b) if so, when that expedition is likely to be undertaken?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) and (b) Government have no information about this expedition.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Are Government aware of the recent map-

prepared by China, in which a certain part of that region has been shown as belonging to China, and if so, do Government propose to get a map of that region prepared on the basis of international conventions?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: There is no doubt about the northern international border of India.

Mr. Speaker: This question has been often repeated.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: I did not hear the answer. What is the answer?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I said that there is no doubt about the international northern boundary of India.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: That is exactly what I want to know. If there is no doubt, will Government care to get a map prepared on that basis?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Normally, all our maps are prepared on that basis. If the hon. Member wants some very detailed map of that area, that would have to be done, but it is a difficult matter in those mountains. But the maps at present prepared show a definite northern and north-eastern boundary, which is precise.

Shri Meghnad Saha: Will Government consider the advisability of lodging a protest to the Chinese Government for including Nepal and Bhutan in their maps, as being within Chinese territory?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru *rose*—

Mr. Speaker: I think I will go to the next question.

प्लास्टिक की बनी वस्तुएं

*१६५३. **श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :** क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पिछले वर्ष प्लास्टिक की बनी वस्तुएं कितनी मात्रा में विदेशों से मंगाई गई और उनका मूल्य कितना था ;

(ख) भारत में प्लास्टिक बनाने वाले कितने कारखाने हैं; और

(ग) पिछले वर्ष कितने मूल्य की प्लास्टिक की वस्तुएं तैयार की गईं ?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) The value of finished plastic goods imported during 1952-53 is Rs. 11,39,000. Information in regard to quantity is not available.

(b) About 80

(c) Information about the production of the industry as a whole is not available, but according to the returns received from the larger units, goods worth about Rs. 150 lakhs were produced during 1953.

Shri Raghunath Singh: How much raw material have we imported last year?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have figures only for nine months in 1953-54, and they are as follows:

Raw materials, synthetic resin, and moulding powder ...Rs.1,07,38,000

Semi-fabricated plastic materials Rs.68,27,000

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know whether we can manufacture in India the goods which are imported from foreign countries; and if so what steps are being taken by Government to achieve self-sufficiency?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The idea of self-sufficiency is one that cannot be precisely defined. It happens that the organised industry itself produces about Rs. 150 lakhs worth of goods, and imports are just a very minute fraction of this production, and amount to about Rs. 11 lakhs.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know whether all the raw materials required for this plastic industry have to be imported from abroad?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: At the present moment, more or less, that is so.

HINDUSTAN SHIPYARD LTD.

*1654. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to refer to starred question No. 379 asked on the 11th August, 1953 and state whether any arrangements have been made to manufacture engines and boilers in the Hindustan Shipyard Ltd., Visakhapatnam?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Production (Shri R. G. Dubey): The matter is under examination.

Shri S. C. Samanta: In August last, when I put this question, the hon. Minister stated that the scheme was under consideration. May I know why so much time is being taken in this matter?

Shri R. G. Dubey: This is a highly complicated matter. After that reply was given, there has been some further progress, and a detailed consideration of the subject. In the near future, the Planning Commission are going to arrange for a meeting at the Ministerial level to discuss the various aspects of the question. Meanwhile, a meeting at the departmental level has considered the various aspects arising out of this question.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the financial aspect of the scheme is standing in the way?

Shri R. G. Dubey: I do not think that the financial aspect is standing in the way. But the question is what size of diesel engines we should manufacture. There are engines of various horse-powers. For example, for the shipping industry, we require engines of 3000 H. P. It is not possible initially to manufacture engines of such high capacity. To start with, we can manufacture only smaller H. P. engines. Even for that, trained personnel are necessary. Before we take up the manufacture of these engines, there are three other factors that we have to bear in mind, and these have recently been brought to our notice. We require an iron foundry, a teel foundry and a forging unit. Now there is a proposal that these units should form part of the steel plant which is in the contemplation of Government. So, are these aspects are there. That is why this matter is naturally taking some time.

Shri S. C. Samanta: How many engines and boiler components have we imported up till now for ships?

Shri R G. Dubey: I am sorry I could not say that.

IMPORT OF ANIMALS

*1655. **Shri Muniswamy:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of animals imported into India during 1951-52 and 1952-53;

(b) from which countries; and

(c) the purposes for which they were imported?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 55]

(c) Mainly for breeding, exhibition in zoos and use in turf clubs.

I find that from Pakistan we receive some poultry also.

Shri Muniswamy *rose—*

Mr. Speaker: I am going to the next question.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know, Sir.....

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

BOKHARO THERMAL PLANT

*1656. **Shri Ramananda Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that no arrangements have

been made by the D. V. C. for the proper distribution of the power that could be produced by the Bokharo Thermal Plant?

(b) Is it a fact that even the Bokharo Colony which is lying adjacent to the power-house is electrified by the power borrowed from Kargali Colliery at a monthly cost of rupees eleven thousand?

(c) Is it a fact that due to defects of planning of distribution, only one turbine is working and the other two are lying idle?

(d) When would it be possible for the D.V.C. to arrange for the proper distribution of the installed capacity of the three turbines?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) No Sir. There was initially delay in the delivery of sub-station equipment for distributing the power. Most of the equipment has, however been received now.

(b) No sir.

(c) Working of the second turbine had to be postponed till July 1954 for the reasons stated in reply to part (a) of the question. The third turbine will in any case be a stand by.

(d) By March 1955.

Shri P. C. Bose. May I know if the inter-connection of the different plants including the Sindri Power House will completely form the grid system?

Shri Hathi: The Sindri Power House will be in grid with the Bokaro Power House.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know whether any recommendations have been made by the Estimates Committee regarding this thermal plant, and if so, whether they were considered?

Shri Hathi: The recommendation made by the Estimates Committee was that Bokaro should not have been given priority. That was the view expressed by the Committee.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know whether the construction of the transmission lines is keeping pace with the development of load in the Bokaro thermal power station?

Shri Hathi: As I said, there was some difficulty in getting the equipment for the sub-station. But now they have covered a major portion of the transmission lines.

Displaced Persons Camps

*1657. **Shri K. R. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that local audit in March, 1948 revealed a shortage of 10,872 garments of wool and 20,926 lbs. of wool for knitting garments valued at 1·55 lakhs; and

(b) if so, what action was taken against the officer concerned?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): (a) Yes; but these were also counter-balanced by excesses of 11,000 garments and 18.000 lbs. of wool, the net loss in terms of money, amounting to Rs. 18,304/- only.

(b) His services were terminated.

Import of Pencil Slats

*1658. **Shri G. L. Chandhary:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) what quantity of cerawood pencil slats was imported from East Africa during 1953-54; and

(b) how many pencil-factories depend wholly on the material imported from Kenya?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) As import figures for slats are not separately shown in the Monthly Accounts relating to the Foreign Sea or Air Borne Trade and Navigation of India, the information is not available.

(b) Precise information is not available as to the material imported from Kenya.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR AT WASHINGTON

*1659. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Third International Trade Fair is to be held from the 11th to 24th February, 1954 at Seattle, Washington;

(b) whether India will be represented there; and

(c) if so, what kind of articles will be exhibited?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yes.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 56]

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if any expert committee was appointed to select these articles for exhibition there? If not, how were these articles selected?

Shri Karmarkar: There is the All-India Handicrafts Board which selected articles for this exhibition. It is a regularly constituted body.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if any attempt has been made to ascertain the number of visitors who came to our booth there?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir. A rough estimate was made. I could not tell the hon. Member the actual number of visitors who attended.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if any attempt has been made to know the reactions of the people to the various goods that were exhibited there?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes. The reaction has been quite good. A number of trade enquiries have been received.

Shri M. D. Ramasami: May I know whether handloom fabrics were exhibited there?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir. I find that handloom jacquered weave bedspreads, handloom jacquered weave table cloth and curtain material, handloom furnishing material, printed bedspreads, cotton and satin etc. were exhibited.

Mr. Speaker: The question list is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

EXPORT OF TEA

*1646. **Shri Amjad Ali:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of tea exported to America from India during 1952 and 1953; and

(b) whether there is any encouraging feature in the export of tea which has induced India to increase her contribution to the Joint Tea Promotion Council, composed of India, Ceylon and Indonesia?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) 1952—29 Million lbs. approx.

1953—30 Million lbs. approx.

(b) The Tea Council of the U.S.A has been functioning for about a year and even within this period there has been a marked improvement in the consumption of tea in that country. Apart from this, all the other parties to the Council have increased their contributions for 1954 and India has also had to step up her contribution by $ 25,000.

PASSPORTS

340. Shri M. Islamuddin: Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the number of persons who applied for passports and the number to whom passports were issued for Eastern Pakistan from Purnea District in 1953?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The number of persons who applied for passports was 1040. Passports were issued to 901 persons.

CASHEW-NUT FACTORIES

341. { **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** / **Shri V. P. Nayar:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cashew-nut factories in India which remained closed on the 1st March, 1954; and

(b) what, if any, are the reasons for the failure to open the factories during the current working season?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) About 66 according to information obtained from Travancore-Cochin Government.

(b) The reasons appear to be manifold. I understand that the Travancore-Cochin factories are not taking their supplies of imported raw materials from the Bombay importers. There also appears to be a slackening of the demand from overseas.

AUTOMOBILES

342. Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to refer to starred question No. 233 asked on the 24th November, 1953 regarding import of cars and state:

(a) the annual requirements of heavy automobiles, trucks and cars for (i) the Government of India, (ii) the State Governments, and (iii) Private Individuals for own use or for business purposes;

(b) the percentage of requirements met from (i) indigenous manufactures, and (ii) assemblages; and

(c) the amount of foreign exchange required for these imports during the years 1951-52 and 1952-53?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) The total demand in India for all kinds of vehicles has been estimated at about 20,000 per annum. Separate figures of motor vehicles required by the Central and State Governments and private individuals cannot be given precisely.

(b) As against the assembly figures of 5617 by the four manufacturers during 1953, the number of cars and trucks that were imported from January-November 1953 was 8453. Government's policy is to concentrate the entire demand for motor vehicles on the approved manufacturers.

(c) A statement is attached. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 57]

EXPORT TRADE PROMOTION

343. Shri L. N. Mishra: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken to promote India's export trade; and

(b) if so, what they are?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). A statement is attached. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 58]

VILLAGE LEATHER INDUSTRY

344. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether some funds have been set apart for the development of village leather industry during the current year;

(b) if so, what amount; and

(c) how it will be allocated?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) to (c). It is presumed the hon. Member refers to the year 1953-54. A statement is attached. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 59.]

JUTE (IMPORT)

345. Shri L. N. Mishra: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantities of jute of different varieties imported from Pakistan in 1953-54;

(b) the price paid for each variety per ton;

(c) how these prices compare with the prices paid to Indian jute of the same quality; and

(d) the total quantity of Indian jute purchased by Indian mills and prices paid for them during this period?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) The total quantity of raw jute imported from Pakistan during the first 11 months of 1953-54 (April, 1953 to February, 1954) was 13:23 lakh bales of 400 lbs. each. Details of break-down into various grades are not recorded in official statistics.

(b) Information regarding prices paid is not available.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Purchase of Indian jute during the first 11 months of 1953-54 (April 1953 to February 1954) by mills in the membership of the Indian Jute Mills Association amounted to 38.44 lakh bales. No information about the actual prices paid is available.

TEA BOARD

346. Shri Ramananda Das: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what steps Government have taken to improve the internal and external consumption of tea since the formation of the Central Tea Board?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): A statement is attached. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 60]

EXPORT OF HIDES

347. Shri Amjad Ali: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any ban for export of raw cow and buffalo hides was imposed in 1949;

(b) if so, to what country or countries;

(c) how far it had affected the balance of trade position; and

(d) the quantities of these two kinds of raw hides that were imported from Pakistan since the ban in 1949 was imposed on Indian export?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) The ban was imposed on 4th April, 1951 and still continues.

(b) All destinations.

(c) As exports of hides have always been subjected to controls and limited to 15 per cent. of basic year's performance its influence on the overall balance of trade was negligible.

(d) A statement is attached. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 61]

INDIAN TEA MARKET EXPANSION BOARD

348. Shri Ramananda Das: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent each year by the Indian Tea Market Expansion Board for internal and external propaganda for the consumption of tea;

(b) the details of such expenses in India and outside India; and

(c) the number of Indians employed in Tea Council in America and other countries?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). A statement is attached. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 62]

(c) Organisations for tea promotion have been so far established in U. S. A. and Germany. No Indian has been employed in either of these organisations.

MARBLE

349. Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether marble deposits in the country are being fully exploited;

(b) if so, how much of our internal consumption is met from it and how much from imports;

(c) whether any quantities are exported; and

(d) if so, how much and of what value and quality?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Yes, Sir, to the extent possible.

(b) About 50 per cent. from indigenous sources and 50 per cent. from imports.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) While no information is available with regard to the quality of marble exported, a statement showing the quantity and value of exports of stones and marbles during the last 3 years is attached. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 63]

SOCIAL EDUCATION

350. Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Minister of **Planning** be pleased to refer to answer to starred question No. 1296 asked on the 25th March, 1954 regarding social education organisers and state:

(a) how many trainees from Andhra State have completed their course for social education organisers' training

(b) the medium of instruction;

(c) the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes among them; and

(d) the number of women trainees?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) 11 social and 2 Chief Social Education Organisers.

(b) English.

(c) Information is being obtained and will be laid on the Table of the House when received.

(d) One Social and one Chief Social Education Organiser.

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THE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Wednesday, 7th April, 1954

The House met at Two of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

2-57 P.M.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—*contd.*

DEMANDS NOS. 61, 62, 63, 64, 128 AND 129

Mr. Speaker: The House will now proceed with further discussion and voting on Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Irrigation and Power in respect of which motions were moved as also on the cut motions.

Shri S. C. Deb (Cachar-Lushai Hills): Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday I was stating, and made mention, that the Barak River Valley Project was given second priority by the Central Waterpower, Irrigation and Navigation Commission which visited Assam in 1948. This Commission recommended four river valley projects, *viz*: Dihang, Barak, Manas and Someswari. The Khosla Committee—the *ad hoc* Committee—favoured the recommendation, but selected two in the first Five Year Plan. Now, I would like to refer to the Report of the *ad hoc* Committee in connection with the investigation of the river valley projects published by Government of India in 1948.

There investigations were undertaken of ten schemes in different parts of the country. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to page 86, appendix viii, 'Assam Projects Report' of that report and with your permission I quote:

> "It suffered a strategic strain during the last war and with partition has become still more important and therefore needs an industrial development all round."

> "The province can roughly be divided into two main valleys, the Brahmaputra valley in the north and the Surma valley in the south. The waters of these rivers at present cause devastating floods, destroying crops, water-logging lands and creating problems of soil erosion and denudation."

Of the projects recommended, which I have already mentioned, the Barak project has been given second priority. About Barak this is what they say, and I would like to read it with your permission:

> "*Barak*— Barak rises in the hills of Manipur State, bifurcates into two estuaries, the Surma and the Kusiyra, which both fall into the Meghna river. When Meghna is in floods, its back-water effect interrupts drainage of the Surma Valley with the result that the plains of Cachar district become almost one sheet of water. A storage scheme on this river would absorb floods thereby reclaiming the plains of Surma Valley from

[Shri S. C. Deb]

water-logging and will provide irrigation to the reclaimed areas as also generate about 2,90,000 KW of power, which can be used in industrial exploitation of the tremendous forest wealth of Manipur and Lushai hills. As these hills are of shaly-formations, 3 alternate schemes, as shown in the statement, have to be investigated".

There, Sir, they prefer three schemes, *viz*:

(I) Barak near Sibapurikhal—potential power: 2,90,000 K.W.

(II) Barak near Bhubandhar—potential power: 2,25,000 KW.

(III) A Barak near Bubandhar—potential power: 1,16,000 KW.

Sir, if this project is undertaken, it will benefit Manipur, Tripura, Lushai Hills and Cachar districts. In the last-named district, the density of population is higher, and if power is generated, it would also give employment to a large number of unemployed people. There are two lakhs of displaced persons and 20,000 retrenched tea labour. My constituency is also a border area separated from the mainland of Assam by high hills. So, Sir, unless flood is controlled and the area is developed economically, the lot of the people inhabiting that area will be miserable.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA *in the Chair*]

Because of its vulnerability, the Central Government has taken so much trouble over the River Valley Investigation in Assam and the Barak was given second priority in the Plan. The Iyengar Committee visited Assam in 1952 to study the condition of the river and floods there.

I learn from the Budget speech of the hon. Finance Minister of Assam that the two rivers Kapili in Nowgong and Pagladia in Kamrup district are under investigation. But, no mention of Barak, which is situated in the other valley, is there. I do not know why. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether this river which was given so much importance by the Commission is to be dropped or will go by default. I would like to be assured by the hon. Minister that it is going to be included in the Second Five Year Plan. I urge upon the hon. Minister to give due consideration to this proposal and to see that immediate steps are taken for its materialisation.

I know in the State Assembly of Assam our M.L.A.s from my area mentioned that project in the budget discussion. Already public agitation is there for the inclusion of this river in the Second Five Year Plan. I again beg of the hon. Minister to take all this into consideration and take steps for the investigation and other consequent measures.

I would like to mention the river Budidihang of the Dibrugarh subdivision which is also flooded every year. That should also be taken up in the Second Five Year Plan. That falls within the constituency of Mr. Hazarika, our Parliamentary Secretary. His area is one corner and my area is another corner of the State. I hope that as the river has attracted the notice of our hon. Prime Minister, that area will also be taken into consideration but I do not know whether my feeble voice would attract the Government about my area.

It is well-known all over India that the ravages of flood in Assam are great. So, I appeal to the Central Government to take the initiative for the control of these rivers in Assam, and also for taking up large-scale river valley project works. They are to be included in the Second Five Year Plan, according to the observations of the Central Waterpower, Irrigation and Navigation Commission. I appeal to the hon. Minister to take up the initiative for such major works without waiting for the initiative of the State Government. If the Central Government takes the initiative, then something will be done. The Central Government should also grant sufficient

funds by way of loans etc., for the development of that State. I think, if it is done, it will be a boon to the State. I appeal to the hon. Minister to give due consideration to all these matters

Shri T. N. Singh (Banaras Distt.—East): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have tried in my own way to make a study of the various River Valley Projects. One important point that I would stress is the need for the speedy as well as economic execution. As a matter of fact, if works are executed with speed, certain economies result. At the same time, the economies are mostly dependent on the better planning and well conceived ideas as to what we propose to do.

I must state at the very start that I have every faith in the workmen who are engaged in these works. But, there are certain complications which arise as a result of the introduction of latest scientific methods. What happens is that we sometimes call in a number of foreign experts. Our Indian engineers are also there at work and the result is almost a hotch-potch organisation. They put up our cost, they also result in continuous changes in our programmes and designs, which again result in the cost going up. Not only that, it delays work. A certain plan has been worked out; after some time, due to some consultation, you change the programme. There will be a time lag and a new scheme will be drawn up and the cost will go up. At least, from what I have been able to study of these various programmes, this is my diagnosis. I think, in such works, as too many cooks spoil the broth, when we start consulting too many persons, there is often wasteful expenditure and avoidable delay. Take, for instance, the D. V. C. In this we have had so many consultants and advisers and the result was that we did not have even an Executive Chief there. We called the Greuners, we called the S. C. B., we called our own men, we called foreign engineers as consultants, and even today we have got consultant engineers, construction engineers, contractors' engineers and all those persons are working, creating chaos. Many times, I have visited the place. I have seen the work that is being done. This Parliament has established a separate Corporation for the Damodar Valley prjoects.

The Corporation considers itself to be a very independent and autonomous body and it is not amenable to discipline. I may cite an example. One of the senior and respected Members of the Estimates Committee—and he is also the General Secretary of the Congress—went there and asked for some information, but what cooperation and assistance were given to him. I think Government are aware of the D. V. C. authorities, behaviour and we are ourselves aware as Members of the Public Accounts Committee. (*Interruption*). The Member of the Estimates Committee only wanted to know certain information in regard to what was being done there. I was amazed to notice the attitude of non-co-operation. I was, in so many words, told off that "it is none of your business." I do not know why we cannot keep ourselves informed about the D. V. C. I think informed knowledge is always better because it obviates unnecessary criticism and we can understand each other better. Is the D. V. C. meant to be independent of all parliamentary control? If that is the interpretation put to the Act it is high time that it was altered. I would very strongly urge on the hon. Minister to take note of that fact.

At the same time, with all the experience we have had—this is not the first two or three river valley projects that we have—we should be able to make up our minds as to what is the set-up that we want for our river valley projects. It is high time that we made up our minds as to which kind of organisation is most effective for speedy and economic execution of our projects. That is a very important point

The second point that I wish to urge is this. A scheme, even with a

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modest beginning, is preferable to a very big scheme which we are not able to execute in time. I am saying this not in a spirit of criticism but only in spirit of help as to what I think should be the correct approach. For instance, if you say that you propose to open a dam in the year 1957 or 1958, and actually, if the time lag extends to another three years and you are not able to do it till 1961, then people start criticising you. It also creates a bad impression in their minds; in fact, a hostile impression is created in the public mind, and there are unnecessary and avoidable criticisms because of this. For instance, when we started the Hirakud project, we thought we would be able to do it in a period of five or six years, but it has not been possible to execute it within that period. Even for the D. V. C., we thought we would be able to do it in a particular time, but it has not been possible to achieve it also. Of course, the work is stupendous and our resources are limited and I know there is nothing in this that we should be ashamed of. But I am certainly sorry that we held out hopes which we could not have carried out. I plead very earnestly to the hon. Minister not to hold out such hopes.

The hon. Minister, in his opening speech the other day, made certain calculations and stated that so much work has been done and the rest will be done in such and such time. I say that it is unfair on his part to say so; neither is it fair for us to demand such things from him, because when we ask questions, he is tempted to hold out hopes. If you put five years and you are able to execute it in four years, it creates a better impression, but if you put four years and take five or six years to complete the job, that creates a bad impression. I think one of the things responsible for creating such false hopes is the time mentality from our side. When we say "You must do it by such and such time", naturally the Minister passes it on to his officials and the officials pass it on to the contractors and work goes on in that spirit and in that way certain irregularities come in.

Shri S. S. More (Sholapur): Should we not expect anything from Government?

Shri T. N. Singh: Take, for instance, the Hirakud project. When we say that this has to be done within a particular time, we want that it should be speeded up, and that serves as an excuse for certain persons to overthrow all legitimate and reasonable rules that are very necessary for the construction work by the engineer himself, namely, the preparation of designs, etc. Even such important things as preparation of a proper design etc., were forgone under the pretext of speed and time-limit. At the same time, there are reasonable time limits, under which things can be done. I believe the public is vigilant, the Parliament is vigilant and the Ministers are vigilant and they can always enforce and speed up things. That will be a better way of speeding up things than by putting up unattainable targets etc. Pressure of public opinion, pressure from Ministers and our own pressure will speed up things as long as our own people are engaged on the work, because after all, they are our own men and must be patriots and must realise the necessity of speeding up the work. We must depend upon the good nature of our people. I have myself seen certain factories and our workman is second to none both in skill and capacity to work. That is a fact which has come to me as a sort of great realisation, which I did not have two years ago.

Shri S. S. More: What about the Ministers?

Shri T. N. Singh: There is no longer that inferiority complex in our workman, namely, that he has not had the benefit of reading the English text books and going to the school. Today, I feel that our worker is second to none and he can work under very difficult conditions which a

European worker will refuse to work under, and he can turn out good work also.

Another point that I would like to urge is this: for God's sake, remember that our resources are limited and we must make the best use of our limited resources, both in money and men and material. Every rupee must be made to do the work of Rs. 10 in India and I believe it is possible if we do things in our own way. A poor man, like ourselves, makes better use of one rupee than a rich man who is prepared to throw it away for nothing. When we have got one rupee, we calculate how best it could be made use of, whether to invest it in *chappals*, *kurta*, cap, oil or a little ghee. It is necessary for the engineers to develop this poor man's mentality in the execution of public works. Some officials take it ill if such advice is given. I can only say that I often regret such an attitude. I was associated with the Hirakud Committee's report and I am disappointed with the manner in which its recommendations have been implemented. For instance, it is said that our recommendations have been accepted. In one case, I have received a reply that disciplinary action has been taken against an officer, I want to know whether it is not a fact that this particular officer has now become an Under Secretary—he was only an Assistant Secretary then. You write that disciplinary action has been taken, but is it not a fact that a particular officer against whom action has been taken in consonance with our recommendations, has got a better job elsewhere and that too on the recommendation of the officials of the same Ministry? If he does not think so, I would ask the Minister to make an enquiry and get at the true facts of the case. If actions are taken and are announced, and if in effect they are nullified in other ways they create a very bad impression. I think that the Minister is probably aware of these facts. In any case he should have been aware of it. We should follow what is being done in such cases. Similarly, there are a number of other points, but I have not the time here to discuss all the recommendations of the Committee and how they have been implemented. Merely writing on paper that the recommendations are accepted does not take us far. I would humbly request the hon. Minister to go a little more into details of these recommendations and see how they have been implemented. If that is done things will improve. Our objective is a common one: we want work to be done speedily and economically.

Shri Natesan (Tiruvallur): Sir, I am glad to find that good progress has been made in the execution of the Bhakra Nangal project. It is encouraging to note that water will be flowing from this project this year. There is no doubt that the agricultural and industrial economy of PEPSU and Rajasthan will certainly improve. I am also glad to note the progress made in the Damodar Valley Corporation. We have had any amount of set-backs; we have had any number of disappointments; yet, I think we have just turned the corner.

Sir, yesterday the hon. Minister of Irrigation and Power made a statement. He gave a complete reveiew of what is being done and what the future proposals are going to be. I felt a keen sense of disappointment when I found that the State which I have the honour to represent has not been mentioned at all in the statement. Why is it so? Is it because we are in the southern region, in the remotest corner? Or, is it because we do not make any noise here? Or, is it because you have got no schemes at all, or the schemes are so small that they are not worth mentioning in the statement?

We have been asking for the Periyar scheme and the Kunda scheme. We waited in a deputation on the Planning Commission last year. It is now more than one year. What has happened? The Periyar scheme has been sanctioned by the Planning Commission. But when is it going to be put

[Shri Natesan]

through? I must in this connection observe that the hon. Minister was good enough to see us one day to explain our difficulties.

I was referring to the Periyar scheme. It can go through straightway. But what is holding it up? We have got some sort of a dispute with the Travancore-Cochin Government. They claim a royalty on the waters of the Periyar river. The Madras Government has not agreed. So, we keep on corresponding to and fro without any effect. Now, I want the hon. Minister to tell the Madras Government that they can proceed with the Periyar Scheme and that the question of royalty can be decided by arbitration of the Government of India later, if necessary. The scheme has to go through at any cost. We have the problem of unemployment staring us and yet we are dealing with these matters in a leisurely fashion.

Then there is the Kunda project. The Kunda project has also been considered by the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission wanted some revision to be made. The Madras Government has sent up the revised proposals. Now that has to go to the Power Commission and after scrutiny it will go to the Planning Commission. Unfortunately, when we interviewed the Minister last week, he told us that the scheme has to go to a Priority Committee. This Priority Committee is intended for the Second Five Year Plan. I wish to point out how it will delay matters, if the Kunda Project is to be referred again to the Priorities Committee. The Madras Government have told the Central Government that they have got some money to spare. They have got about Rs. 118 lakhs and all that they want is that the Central Government should give them permission to go ahead with the scheme. It will be a tragedy if this scheme is referred to the Priority Committee, because committees keep on sitting and sitting without any end

I must bring to the notice of Government the extreme shortage of power in Madras. The demand is much more than what we can think of. Even if both the Kunda and Periyar projects go through, there will still be further demand. We have alredy got schemes which have been investigated. Where is the trouble in expediting your orders and sanctions? Here in North India you go on sanctioning schemes even without their being investigated. Take, for instance Koyna and Rihand. They were not included in the First Five Year Plan But they have all now come up in the First Five Year Plan. Because, Bombay can make noise because the Uttar Pradesh can make noise, while we in Madras do not do it. It is now nearly two and a half years since we came to this Parliament. Barely two and a half more years are left and off we go. How long is it going to take? You have to act quickly. You know how the Departments of Government function. So, I want to impress on the hon. Minister that the Kunda project must be sanctioned at once and the Madras Government must be asked to take it up at once. Since they have got the money now for the first two years, they can carry on the work and in the meantime they can sanction the scheme.

So far as Madras is concerned, there are no commitments for the power side for the Second Five Year Plan. These are the only two schemes we have got now. These two have been fully investigated. I would, therefore, request the Minister to see that no further delay occurs, and to instruct the Madras Government to go ahead with the Periyar and Kunda schemes.

Then I want to say something about the irrigation schemes. We have got two schemes: Sathanur and Krishnagiri. These are the only two irrigation schemes that are going to come up before Government. We have not got any major irrigation schemes in Madras. For Krishnagiri a sum of Rs. 20 lakhs for 1954-55 and Rs. 40 lakhs for 1955-56 is required. In regard to Sathanur we require Rs. 30

lakhs in 1954-55 and Rs. 60 lakhs in 1955-56.

Government have been very good in helping us to get on with Amaravati and Vaigai projects. We now make a request that the two schemes I have mentioned may be allowed to be taken up. Of course, we want financial assistance from the Centre. The total expenditure on these two will be only Rs. 150 lakhs. Krishnagiri will provide irrigation facilities for 7,500 acres in Salam District and Sathanur about 20,000 acres in North Arcot and South Arcot. All these are backward and scarcity areas. If what we say to the people is genuine we must see that these irrigation schemes are taken up at once. After all, we do not want a dole or a grant. We only want you to lend us the money. And how much? only Rs. 150 lakhs. It is a drop in the ocean, compared to the big schemes which have been taken up.

The Prime Minister wants us to keep in touch with our constituency. But what shall I tell my constituency—that Bhakra and Rihand have been taken up? They do not even know where these places are. After all, the irrigation schemes that we have suggested are going to cost only Rs. 150 lakhs. If you can lend us about Rs. 150 lakhs we can start straightaway and tell the people of the locality: 'Here you are, there is some irrigation project.' That is what we want to do.

Then there is large scale unemployment in Madras. Of course, it is all over India. But it is more so in Madras particularly in the famine-striken areas. The projects I have suggested will make the people Plan-conscious. You must show them by example that something is being done. It is no good our telling them about the Five Year Plan, because they do not know what the Plan is. They want to see for themselves what they have to do. Sir, I would make an earnest appeal to the Minister to see that these two irrigation schemes are taken up.

Lastly, Sir, I am asking—this is not a formal request—to give us a loan for these two irrigation schemes and let us have the satisfaction of telling our people that something has been done towards the betterment of those people who are living in scarcity areas.

I would once more make an appeal to the Minister to tell the Madras Government to go on with the Periyar and Kunda schemes. Once more I may say that we have no major schemes for the Second Five Year Plan and if we miss this, there is no project for the next five years and within this period some more demand will come and we will not be able to do anything.

Shri Boovaraghasamy (Perambalur): Sir, while moving my cut motions I would like to say a few words regarding my constituency.

It is well laid down in the first Five Year Plan that the scope and object of the Plan is to concentrate the resources of the country to develop the most under-developed areas. The ideal is good, and it has also become evident that we have adequate resources for the implementation of the Plan. But, four years have passed and what are our achievements? Except certain multipurpose projects undertaken by the Centre, the enterprises left at the responsibility of the States have not progressed to any extent. The destiny of millions of people of these underdeveloped areas are left at the discretion of such a type of State administration which has resulted in a most unjust situation. While the people of one area in the country are blessed with the new schemes under the Plan, a vast majority of the people are ignored and allowed to starve under scarcity and famine.

I come from the South. The spirit of the Plan of developing the backward areas is not availed of by my State, for the representatives of the people were not consulted while drawing out the Plan. Therefore, the largest under-developed areas in Tamil Nad are not mentioned in the Plan and hence no relief can be given to the people there. In fact, areas

[Shri Boovaraghasamy]

that are affected by scarcity and famine, found no relief under the Plan. I am glad that at least now the hon. Minister for Irrigation and Power has realised the situation and found time to consult the Members of the House to chalk out the Second Five Year Plan.

As far as I am concerned, I want only to confine myself to a matter pertaining to my constituency and which has been represented in the form of a memorandum to the hon. Minister for Power and Irrigation on the 1st of April 1954, when he was kind enough to receive suggestions. I also want him to kindly consider this fact. He is also aware, and almost all of us are aware, about the situation in Madras State. Just after the general elections all the energies of the party machinery was involved in manoeuvres to get power, and even after formation of a Government, the power politics continued and is continuing. Persons responsible and administrative heads found time only for such manipulations as 'vote of confidence', reshaping of Cabinet etc., and hence they were not able to concentrate much on constructive and nation-building activities. Therefore, if the spirit of the Plan is to be implemented, the Centre should take the initiative instead of depending for the formal approval and recommendation of the States whose heads are involved in other activities.

Now, coming to the point, I represent the Perambalur constituency in Tiruchirapalli District, which for the past so many centuries is a victim of scarcity and famine. The people of this area are mostly agriculturists depending on agriculture for their existence; but the destiny of the agriculturists depends on rain with the result that they mostly suffer. This has been the position for the past so many centuries. The gravity of the matter was felt in 1952 when this area was seriously affected and people had to walk many miles for getting drinking water. The soil is very fertile and if properly irrigated the yield will be twice or thrice more than that of the delta areas. As far as the position of this area is concerned, it lies adjacent to the river Cauvery. On one side, due to the water of Cauvery river, we can find a fertile area yielding two harvests per year and at times three even; but, on the other side—that is in my constituency —we have to suffer even for drinking water. In this area there are thousands of good storage tanks intended for storing water in the rainy season, both for agricultural and drinking purposes. Due to its position adjacent to Cauvery river and the type of storage tanks existing for the past many centuries, a permanent scheme for providing irrigation facilities is possible. I mentioned about this possibility of providing irrigation facility to this area, in my Budget speech last year. The Cauvery river possess adequate resources of water supply. According to data available from the People's Edition of the First Five Year Plan, only 60 per cent. of the water is used for irrigation and the rest goes to the sea. Particularly in the months of June, July and August which are supposed to be the rainy season the water of the Cauvery is not much used by the delta people for irrigation, and often due to heavy rains much water flows to the sea without being utilised. Therefore, I suggest that a canal from the Cauvery river can be drawn and water taken to these areas so that the tanks can be filled up which can be utilised for drinking as well as irrigation purposes.

As far as the possibility of the canal is concerned, a level is available at Mohanoor at a high altitude in the course of the Cauvery in between the border of Salem and Tiruchirapalli Districts. From this point a canal can be drawn, to-wards East, the course of which will go through Mettupalayam, Thuraiyur, Perambalur, Aryalur and Udayarpalayam in Tiruchirapalli District. The water in the canal can also be utilised for irrigating some areas in South Arcot District also Through this canal, the surplus water

flowing into the sea in the rainy months can be diverted without prejudice to the interests of the delta people. The length of the canal will be about hundred miles.

As far as the feasibility of the scheme of diverting Cauvery water is concerned, an engineer at the Conference of Engineers held at Madras on 1st January, 1954 had suggested that Cauvery water can be drawn through a canal from the point which I have mentioined—or near about that—to Madras to provide facilities for drinking water, covering a distance of more than two hundred miles. While that is possible, how will it not be possible to divert the waters of the Cauvery to the adjoining areas on the banks of the river? There is a good case for this project. The whole scheme will cost only a few crores of rupees; but it will yield maximum social advantage. If the scheme is implemented, approximately about five lakhs acres of land could be irrigated and it will supply drinking water to the entire people of that area. The yield from the irrigated land will be so much that the entire food problem of Tamil Nad could be solved. The tube well project is not possible here in this dry area. It is not possible to find springs and it will result only in waste of money and will not serve any fruitful purpose. Everything is favourable for an irrigation scheme. Water is available; the level is available; the yield from the land will be good. What is the obstacle in the way of implementing the scheme? It will yield permanent and better results. I hope and believe that the Government which has poured hundreds of crores in the North will not, and must not, hesitate to give somes relief to the millions of people who are regular victims of famine and scarcity for long centuries in the South.

सेठ अचल सिंह (जिला आगरा---पश्चिम). अध्यक्ष महोदय, भारत एक कृषिप्रधान देश है उसके वास्ते इर्रीगेशन और पावर का सवाल बहुत अहम है। उसमें कभी सूखा पड़ती है कभी बाढ़ आती है। इस वजह से हमेशा तबाही रहती है लेकिन जो हमारी पंचवर्षीय योजना चल रही है उसके सम्बन्ध में जो डैम्स बनाये जा रहे हैं उनसे पानी का प्रबन्ध किया जायगा उन इलाकों के वास्ते जिन में पानी कम बरसता है और सूखा पड़ती है उनमें इन डैम्स से पानी पहुंच सकेगा और जिन स्थानों में बाढ़ आती है उनको रोका जायगा। और जिन देहातों में और शहरों में पावर की जरूरत है वहां वह आसानी से मिल सकेगी। इन डैम्स के बनाने में इस साल लगभग ६० करोड़ रुपया खर्च किया जा रहा है लेकिन बहुत सी रिपोर्टों को देखने से, जैसे हीराकुड, दामोदर वैली या भाखरा, ऐसा मालूम होता है कि इनमें पैसे का काफी दुरुपयोग होता है। खुशी की बात है कि अब यह विभाग एक अलग मिनिस्ट्री के तहत में आ गया इसलिये आशा है कि काफी देखभाल हो सकेगी साथ २ इस बात की आवश्यकता है कि काफी तवज्जह दी जाय ताकि पैसे का दुरूपयोग न हो और फिजूलखर्ची न की जावे।

मैं एक खास मसले की तरफ आपका ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूं। आगरा और मथुरा यू० पी० के दो ऐसे जिले हैं जो कि राजस्थान के बार्डर पर बाके हैं। यहां पर रेगिस्तान बढ़ता जाता है और यहां पर पानी की बहुत कमी है। इस साल आगरा में केवल १६ इंच और मथुरा में १२ इंच पानी पड़ा है इसलिए दोनों फसलें खराब हो गईं। नहरों से जो पानी आता है वह बहुत नाकाफी आता है और इससे काश्तकारों को बड़ी शिकायत रहती है और वह कहते हैं कि हमारी फस्लें सूख जाती व खराब हो जाती हैं। जब तक इन दोनों जिलों में नहरों द्वारा काफी पानी का प्रबन्ध नहीं किया जायगा और ट्यूब वैल्स का इन्तिजाम नहीं होगा और बांध वगैरह नहीं बांधे जायंगे उस वक्त तक पानी की कमी दूर नहीं हो सकती है। ये दोनों जिले फूड के मामले में डैफिसिट यानी कमी वाले जिले हैं। अगर यहां पानी का प्रबन्ध हो जाय तो ये सरप्लस हो सकते हैं। अफसोस की बात है कि जमना से जो आगरा कैनाल आती है उसमें पानी बहुत कम आता है। ज्यादातर

[सेठ अचल सिंह]

पानी पंजाब स्टेट ले लेती हैं । जो कुछ पानी इस्टर्न, आगरा कैनाल और वैस्टर्न जमना कैनाल में आता हैं वह हिंडन और गंगा से मिलता हैं। इसलिए पानी की कमी रहती हैं । पंजाब में काफी पानी हैं और साथ २ भाखरा और नांगल डैम बन गये हैं और इससे वहां पानी की काफी इफरात हो जायगी । भाखरा के बनने से १५०० क्यूसेक्स पानी बचेगा । अगर वह पानी हमको दे दिया जाय तो इससे हमारी कमी काफी हद तक पूरी हो सकती हैं ।

इसके अलावा हमने दो तीन साल हुए कि दिल्ली में एग्जीबीशन में देखा था कि चम्बल स्कीम के द्वारा धौलपुर तक पानी लाया जायगा । लेकिन अब हमको मालूम हुआ हैं कि वह पानी कोटा से सिर्फ तीस मील तक ही आवेगा । जब मध्यभारत में गंगा सागर से दो सौ मील तक पानी आ सकता हैं तो यहां धौलपुर तक क्यों नहीं आ सकता । पहले इंजीनियरों ने बतलाया था कि चम्बल का पानी धौलपुर तक आ सकता हैं लेकिन अब इंजीनियर कहते हैं कि वह अनइकानामिक होगा। समझ में नहीं आता कि किस तरह से एक बार इंजीनियर एक तरह की राय देते हैं और दूसरी बार दूसरी तरह की राय देते हैं । मेरा सुझाव हैं कि जिन इंजीनियरों ने पहले स्कीम बनायी थी उनसे पूछा जाय कि वह किस तरह से धौलपुर तक पानी लाना चाहते थे और जिन इंजीनियरों की अब दूसरी राय हैं उनसे पूछा जाय कि उनकी इस राय का क्या कारण हैं । अगर धौलपुर तक पानी आ सके तो वह आगरा जिले में फतेहआबाद और बाह तहसीलों तक आ सकता हैं जहां पर कि पानी का कोई सहारा नहीं हैं । इस तरह से पानी की कमी दूर हो सकती हैं । जब हम अपनी कांस्टीट्यूएंसी में जाते हैं तो किसान बुरी तरह से पेश आते हैं और इस बात की शिकायत करते हैं कि हमसे कैनाल चार्जेज तो लिये जाते हैं लेकिन पानी यहां पर काफी नहीं दिया जाता हैं । आगरा जिले को १८०० क्यूसेक्स पानी मिलता हैं जो बहुत नाकाफी हैं । अगर इससे दूना पानी हो जाय तो यह कमी पूरी हो सकती हैं । मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान इस तरफ आकर्षित करूंगा कि आगरा और मथुरा की समस्या एक खास समस्या हैं । उस पर विचार करके वे इस पानी की समस्या को हल करें क्योंकि पानी के बगैर फसलें बहुत खराब हो जाती हैं और इससे वहां काफी नुकसान होता हैं । जब तक इस पानी के मामले पर पूरा ध्यान नहीं दिया जायगा यह कठिनाई दूर नहीं हो सकती हैं ।

साथ २ मैं यह भी चाहूंगा कि आगरा जिले में ट्यूबवैल्स बनाये जायं, बांध बांधे जायं और मेसनरी वैल्स के लिए तकावी दी जाय । अगर यह प्रबन्ध किया जायगा तो मैं आशा करता हूं कि यह पानी की कमी पूरी हो जायगी । अगर इस पंचवर्षीय योजना के सम्बन्ध में भी इस पर विचार नहीं किया गया तो काफी परेशानी हो सकती हैं ।

इसके अलावा मैं यह चाहूंगा कि पंजाब में जो किसाऊ डैम का सर्वे किया जा रहा हैं उससे भी हमको पानी दिया जाय । उससे हमको पानी मिल सकता हैं । यह जो पंजाब में डैम का सर्वे हो रहा हैं इसके जरिये यू० पी० के कुछ जिलों को भी पानी पहुंचाया जा सकता हैं जैसे सहारनपुर से इटावा तक और उन जिलों की पानी की कमी पूरी हो सकती हैं । मैं ने इस सम्बन्ध में कुछ इंजीनियर्स से बात चीत की हैं और उन्होंने बताया हैं कि इसमें करीब ३० करोड़ रुपया खर्च होगा । लेकिन मैं कहता हूं कि इससे कहीं ज्यादा फायदा होगा और हमको यू० पी० के पश्चिमी जिलों के वास्ते पानी मिल सकेगा । मेरा मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन हैं कि यह जो सर्वे हो रहा हैं इसमें सैंटर के रिप्रेजेंटेटिव तो रहेंगे ही लेकिन साथ २ इसमें यू० पी० के भी रिप्रेजेंटेटिव रखे जायं ताकि जो व्यवस्था हो उसमें यू० पी० को भी पानी मिल सके । अगर यह हो जाय तो मुझे आशा हैं कि आगरा और मथुरा जिलों में और यू० पी० के दूसरे जिलों में जहां कि पानी की कमी हैं वह कमी पूरी हो सकती हैं ।

Shri C. R. Chowdary (Narasaraopet): We have just entered the fourth year of the first Five Year Plan. A Short survery of the working of the Plan has already been made by the Planning Commission, and it is true that a booklet showing the progress of the Plan has been issued in January last.

From the review of the Five Year Plan, one can see that there are shortfalls on almost every sector of the developmental programme, including the developmental expenditure on the projects as well. In the review of the Plan, it is mentioned that the expenditure on development programmes for the year 1952-53 was about Rs. 286 crores. But the hon. Finance Minister has come out with the statement in the course of his budget speech that the actuals for the period are expected to be only Rs. 271 crores. Even after the lapse of so many months, it is surprising that the Planning Commission is not acquainted with the actual expenditure for the year 1952-53. That means that the Planning Commission has never cared to acquaint itself with the actual expenditure on the Plan during the said period. This is how the Planning Commission is working. In the Plan, the target for additional acreage is given as 1·9 million acres for the year 1952-53. But in the Progress Report, we find that only 1·5 million acres of new land have been brought under cultivation. So far as power is concerned, of course, there has been some excess over the target mentioned for that period in the Plan. Anyhow, the statement that is made in the review of the Plan, that the additional acreage is 1·5 million acres, does not make it clear whether actually this additional acreage is there, and water is supplied to these 1·5 million acres of additional land.

Likewise, the power installations are also there. It has been stated that power plants have been installed. But actually it is not stated anywhere that power has been supplied to such and such area from such and such a power house, and that it has benefited the people living in a particular area.

In the face of these strangely vague statements, I fail to understand how the developmental programmes are proceeding. For instance, the Mayurakshi Project is there, which has been completed. But the water from this Project is not being utilised by the kisans in the area expected to be served by this Project, the reason being that the water cess that is being levied is very high and prohibitive, as compared with the water cess that is there under the existing systems. I am told that the water cess differs from State to State, and also from system to system, and varies from fifty to one hundred and fifty per cent. in excess of the existing rates.

Take, for instance, the Tungabhadra Project. The water is there in the reservoir, and under the low level canal, it is expected that nearly 50,000 acres of wet land, and 2 lakhs acres of dry land are to be irrigated. But the actual progress has been very small. Of course, there are certain reasons for it. But I doubt very much whether this figure also is not included in the 1·5 million acres of additional land referred to in the review of the Plan. If that be the case in regard to this Project, probably we are having the same kind of development in regard to the other projects as well. I would like to submit that the shortfalls that are now being allowed, and the misleading statements that are being made from time to time in this regard should not be encouraged, and the people—and especially this House—must be informed of the correct position in regard to the progress of the Plan.

Actually, you know that the hon. Finance Minister himself expressed a doubt whether the full implementation of the Plan could be had at this

[Shri C. R. Chowdary]

rate. He expected only a percentage of the Plan to be implemented. He said that with the symptoms of failure in the full implementation of the Five Year Plan, the productive projects shall be given preference over unproductive projects and schemes, and steps even from now are being taken in this direction. If things go on at this rate, a stage may come later when we may be obliged to stop even the productive projects, for our resources are failing us, as has been admitted by the Finance Minister himself.

The irrigation and power projects which are recognised as the best forms of public investment have to be made the principal spearhead of economic development in the rural areas. In the Five Year Plan, five new projects have been provided. Out of these five, four are mainly power projects. The fifth one is yet to be named. It has not yet been named. It is a project which we understand to be on the river Krishna, and it shall not be forgotten that it is a project on the Krishna in the south. There is no major project worth mentioning in the south, that has so far been undertaken.

When we agitated for the separation of the Andhra, the main reason for the agitation was that the Andhra territory or the area occupied by the Andhras was being neglected by the composite State of Madras, and the Madras State was preparing a plan to take away the Krishna waters to the South, at the expense of the Krishna Valley people. That was the main reason why we asked for a separate State for ourselves. Even after the separation of the Andhra State, though the project on the Krishna was recommended by the Khosla Committee, and the Nandikonda Project was considered to be the best project, still, attempts were made, from stage to stage, by vested interests to sabotage that plan. I would put the blame even on the Centre, because they also have been contributing their mite to the sinister attempt to do so, by attempting to label the Khosla Committee's Report as an interim report. But we the Members of Andhra, and also the people outside agitated for the publication of that report, and ultimately we succeeded in getting that report out. But that report, even though accepted by the Hyderabad Government after full investigation for a long number of years, was further referred back for further investigation. The project has been investigated by the Hyderabad Government for full fifteen or sixteen years. The only portion of it that had to be investigated was the right side canal, and yet we find that under the pretext of investigation in regard to the right side canal, the matter has been referred back for further investigation. I know not why this kind of a reasoning or rationale underlying this referring back has not been applied to the Chambal Project. The Chambal Project is an inter-State project, like the Nandikonda Project, and it has also been separately investigated by the Madhya Bharat and Rajasthan Governments. Even today, there is no joint report in regard to the Chambal Project. But a combined scheme has been evolved, the foundation-stone has been laid, and the work is being taken up, and the necessary sanction has been given. Why should not the same thing be done in the case of this project on the Krishna, when the joint report is there, and as we have been informed by the Planning Minister and his people, the joint report has been even signed by the engineers of the two States concerned? When this is the position, I do not see any reason why the report should be allowed to lie idle with the sleeping Government of the Andhra now, and the necessary sanction conditioned on the receipt of the joint report. I submit that this is nothing short of sheer neglect, or nothing but a continuation of the deliberate neglect that was there before.

4 P.M.

The Krishna Valley is a thickly populated area, with meagre facilities for agricultural development. Neglect of this has been there from times immemorial. Therefore, even now the matter may be taken up and it may be expedited. A date may be fixed for laying the foundation stone and the work could be taken up immediately and the necessary sanction given in anticipation of the joint report.

In this connection, Sir, I may be failing in my duty if I do not express my gratitude to the Chairman of the Central Water and Power Commission who, on our suggestion, agreed to go over to the project area to study the project on the spot and acquaint himself with the merits or demerits of the project that was being agitated for by the people for a long time.

He went there, and I am grateful for his technical opinion. He opined that of all the projects on Krishna, this Nandikonda project is the best project and it should be taken up immediately. I hope, Sir, the authorities at the Centre will take up themselves the work on this project on the Krishna and proceed with it even during this financial year.

श्री ए० पी० सिन्हा (मुजफ्फरपुर पूर्व) : सभापति महोदय, मैं जो कुछ कहना चाहता हूं उस के पहले श्री नन्दा साहब और उन के साथी हाथी साहब को इस बात के लिये मुबारकबाद देता हूं कि उन के अफसरान और इंजीनियर्स इतने बड़े काम को बड़ी सुन्दर तरीके से कर रहे हैं। किसी बात की नुक्ता चीनी करना आसान है, और जो काम होता है उस में बहुत गल्तियां होती होंगी इसको भी मैं मानता हूं, लेकिन यह बात भी मानना पड़ेगा कि उन लोगों की तरफ से उन गल्तियों को ठीक करने की भी कोशिश होती रही है, और इसी लिये हमें छोटी २ बातों पर ध्यान देने के बजाय कि कौन अफसर कहां डिग्रेड हुआ, और कौन बहाल हुआ, कहां क्या हुआ और कहां क्या नहीं हुआ, इस बड़ी चीज को बड़े दिमाग से और ठंडे दिल से देखना चाहिये, तभी इस काम का फायदा है और जो इंजीनियर और मजदूर काम करने में वहां लगे हैं उन में भी हिम्मत होगी और वह समझेंगे कि पार्लियामेन्ट उन के इस काम की बहुत सराहना करती है।

इन बातों को कहने के बाद मैं श्री नन्दा साहब का ध्यान बिहार और यू० पी० के उन हिस्सों की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूं कि जहां पर गंडक या गंडक से सम्बन्धित अन्य नदियां बह रही हैं। बिहार गवर्नमेन्ट ने इस के लिये एक गंडक प्रोजेक्ट बनाया है जिस से मुजफ्फरपुर के दो सबडिवीजन सहर और हाजीपुर, चम्पारन और सारन, इन तीन स्थानों में---जिलों में इतनी उपज बढ़ सकती है कि कुछ कहा नहीं जा सकता। अगर यह प्रोजेक्ट कामयाब हो जाय, तो बिहार का सूबा अन्न के लिये सेल्फ सफिशियेन्ट— अपने पर निर्भर—हो सकता है। अभी मेरे सूबे और बंगाल में दामोदर वैली प्रोजेक्ट का काम हो रहा है, और काफी अच्छा काम किया जा रहा है। कोसी पर भी, कल नन्दा साहब ने हमें बताया, क्या हो रहा है और आगे वह क्या करने जा रहे हैं। इस के लिये मैं उन का बड़ा कृतज्ञ हूं। बिहार गवर्नमेन्ट ने जो गंडक प्रोजेक्ट की स्कीम बनाई है उस में भी हमें उन से मदद चाहिये। मुझे यह मालूम है कि जाब्ता तौर से कोई स्कीम अभी उन के पास नहीं आई है लेकिन आप को और आप के अफसरान और इंजीनियर्स को पता है कि वह प्रोजेक्ट क्या है। चूंकि मेरे दिमाग में, प्लैनिंग कमिशन किस तरह से काम करता है और आप की मिनिस्ट्री से उस के क्या ताल्लुकात हैं, इस के डिटेल्स---विवरण, पूर्ण रूप से नहीं हैं, इस लिये मैं अधिक कुछ तो नहीं कहना चाहता, लेकिन आप की दिक्कतों को मैं समझता हूं। मगर अगली पंच वर्षीय योजना जो आप बनाने जा रहे हैं, अगर उस में आप इस को शामिल कर लें और हमें और हमारी बिहार गवर्नमेन्ट को अभी से आप कह दें, तो मैं समझता हूं कि इस में पेचीदगियां

[श्री ए० पी० सिन्हा]

हैं, दिक्कतें हैं, और किसी भी प्लैन में या स्कीम में जो कि आगे आने वाली हैं, अभी से अपना वचन दे देना जरा मुश्किल है, लेकिन जो वहां की हालात हैं, उन में आप को इस टैकनिकल दिक्कत को एक हद तक नजर अन्दाज करना होगा । अगर आप यह कर दें तो बिहार गवर्नमेन्ट अभी फिलहाल बरस दो बरस इस के लिये तैयार है कि जहां तक हो सके इस स्कीम को वह अपने रूपये से या जनता से कर्ज ले कर आगे बढ़ाये । सेन्टर से स्माल सेविंग्स ड्राइव में बिहार गवर्नमेन्ट से दो करोड़ रुपया इकट्ठा करने के लिये कहा गया था । हम ने उस में ढ़ाई करोड़ रूपया जमा किया । यहां से हमारे फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब ने बड़ी मेहरबानी करके कहा कि बिहार सरकार ने जो दो करोड़ के ऊपर ५० लाख रुपया जमा किया है, उस को वह बिहार के डेवेलपमेन्ट में लगा सकती है । इस समय दंशमुख साहब यहां नहीं हैं, मैं नन्दा साहब की मारफत उन से अपील करूंगा कि अगर वह ५० लाख रूपये के बजाय पूरा ढ़ाई करोड़ रूपया हमारे यहां छोड़ दें तो हम इस गंडक प्रोजेक्ट के काम को शुरू कर सकते हैं । इस रकम के मुताल्लिक वह चाहे जो सोचें, वह हमें चाहे कुछ दें या न दें, हम इस की परवाह नहीं करते, लेकिन मैं इतना जरूर कहना चाहता हूं कि हमें उम्मीद है कि छः महीनों में या चार महीनों में जाब्ता तौर से हम अपनी स्कीम उन्हें देने जा रहे हैं, वह हमें इस का आश्वासन दें दें कि अगली फाइव इअर प्लैन आगामी पंच वर्षीय योजना में वह इसे ले लेंगे तो जब तक अगली फाइव इअर प्लैन नहीं चलती है, तब तक हमारी बिहार सरकार यह कोशिश करेगी कि जिस तरह पर भी हो, वह उस को वहां पर दो बरस तक चालू रक्खे ताकि आगे चल कर वह अगली फाइव-इअर प्लैन के अन्दर उस से आगे बढ़ाई जा सके । उसके फाइनेन्स का हम प्रबन्ध कर लेंगे । कोसी वहां के लोगों के लिये ह्यूमन मिजरी के लिहाज से---मानव उत्पीड़न के विचार से ऐसी चीज है जिसे कोई भी गवर्नमेन्ट बर्दाश्त नहीं कर सकती । श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू ने दो दफा कोसी को देखा । उन का दिल तो क्या, किसी का भी पत्थर का दिल वहां के लोगों की हालत देख कर पिघल सकता है । लेकिन जहां तक जनता की तरक्की का सवाल है, उनकी उपज बढ़ाने का सवाल है, तमाम हिन्दुस्तान की फूड प्राब्लेम साल्व, अन्न के प्रश्न को हल, करने का सवाल है, गंडक का सवाल बहुत ठोस सवाल है । आप ने कोसी पर जो रुपया खर्च किया, बड़ा अच्छा किया । लेकिन आप इस गंडक के सवाल को भी लीजिये और इस का जल्दी से जल्दी उचित प्रबन्ध कीजिये । इस के लिये आप से फिर से अपील कर के मैं अपना भाषण समाप्त करता हूं ।

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल (बिलासपुर): सभापति महोदय, माननीय इर्रिगेशन और पावर मिनिस्टर ने जो भी अपनी मांग का तखमीना पेश किया है, उस का मैं स्वागत करता हूं और स्वागत करते हुए मैं उनसे दरख्वास्त करना चाहता हूं कि मध्य प्रदेश के कम से कम उस हिस्से को जहां से कि सब से ज्यादा अन्न उन को मिलता है, न भूलना चाहिये । उस हिस्से के ऊपर उन्हें पूरी तरह से गौर करना चाहिये । मान लीजिये, थोड़ी देर के लिये, कि मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने अपनी तरफ से कोई ऐसा तखमीना या कोई ऐसी स्कीम नदी घाटी योजना के बारे में नहीं रक्खा है, तो इसका यह मतलब नहीं कि हम उस हिस्से को जहां से कि हमें सब से ज्यादा अन्न मिलता है, छोड़ दें । मैं आप से यह निवेदन करूंगा की इस से पहले भी, जो हमारी १९४५-५० की क्विन्क्वेनियल रिपोर्ट है उस को यदि आप देखेंगे तो आप को मालूम होगा कि उन्होंने भी इस बारे में मध्य प्रदेश की प्रोजेक्ट्स के बारे में अपनी यह राय दी है :

"Madya Pradesh is one of the richest States of India in minerals. There are large deposits of coal, bauxite, iron, copper manganese, limestone etc. No large scale industrial use of the mineral wealth has so

far been attempted. Absence of cheap power appears to have been the principal handicap. Survey for the purposed utilising the water resources of the area were undertaken about 30 years ago but the reports were discouraging."

इस तरह से आप यहां से चल कर देखेंगे कि

"It was at the time brought out that in spite of the copious rainfall over the entire area, the water resources could not be utilised to produce cheap power or cater for large scale irrigation of the millions of acres of cultivated areas."

यह जो लेखा है इस चीज के ऊपर हम आपके मारफत उनका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहते हैं। गये वक्त पर भी मैं ने उनका ध्यान दिलाने की कोशिश की थी। उसी तरह से यदि आप बस्तर के एरिया में देखें जहां पर इसी रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक वह यह लिखते हैं :

"The power potential of these will be in the neighbourhood of 3,14.000 Kw. continuous. Besides, the dam on the Sabari river will provide irrigation facilitiies for an area of about 7 lakhs acres."

मैं चाहता हूं कि प्लानिंग कमीशन इन बातों पर ध्यान दे और ध्यान करके देखे कि यह कामयाबी हासिल कर सकती है या नहीं और वह जो पिछड़ी हुई जगहें हैं जहां पर इन नदी योजनाओं की जरूरत है उन को बढ़ावा देने के लिये उचित कार्यवाही करें खास कर मान लीजिये कि मध्यप्रदेश की सरकार की तरफ से और कारणों के कारण जिनमें मैं नहीं जाना चाहता और उन कारणों की वजह से उन्होंने यदि देरी की या किसी कारण से यदि अपनी मांगों को रखने में देरी की है तो मैं प्लानिंग कमीशन से और खास करके नन्दा जी से इस बात के लिये आग्रह करूंगा कि इन चीजों को वह जाकर देखें और देखने के बाद उस पर गौर करें। इसके साथ साथ जो आपकी स्टैंडिंग फाइनेंस कमेटी थी उसने भी अपनी यह सिफारिश २५ फरवरी सन् १९४८ को की है जिसमें वह इस तरह से कहते हैं कि :

"Examined these Projects together with other river-valley Projects and their estimates and decided that, as the expenditure involved was very large, the work on these projects, as on others, should be suspended till the proposals and estimates had been examined by the *ad-hoc* committee of experts."

अब एक्सपर्ट्स आपके पास हैं। मैं माननीय नन्दा जी से कहूंगा कि जब आपके पास एक्सपर्ट्स हैं तो आप इन बातों को देखें। इसके साथ साथ मैं आपका ध्यान मध्यप्रदेश में और खासकर बिलासपुर के जिले में जांजगीर तहसील बिलासपुर तहसील के एरिया की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूं जहां पर आपके हरिजन एबार्जिनल्स ज्यादा तादाद में हैं, उस जगह पर हसदो प्रोजेक्ट को २५ दिसम्बर सन् १९४९ को बन्द कर दिया गया था फिर से लेवें तथा पंच वर्षीय योजना में लें। एक सर्वे वहां पर जरूर हुआ, और इसके साथ साथ वहां पर अरपा नदी का भी सर्वे हो चुका है और जो आज सर्वे होकर मध्यप्रदेश की सरकार के पास है और जिसके लिये पैसा न होने के कारण और पूरी मदद न मिलने के कारण मध्यप्रदेश की सरकार ने उस काम को शुरू नहीं किया, मैं उनका ध्यान इस तरफ आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं और मैं उनसे प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूं कि मंत्री महोदय ने जिस तरह से इन सारी चीजों पर गौर किया है, तो उन जगहों पर भी जहां पर कि हमारे एबार्जिनल्स रहते हैं कटघोरा, जांजगीर, तथा बिलासपुर तहसील में जहां पर धान की काफी उपज होती है, उन हिस्सों की ये जो सारे एक्सपर्ट्स लोग हैं वह इन सारी तरफ आप अपना ध्यान शीघ्र दें।

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

चाजों पर गौर करें और देखें कि हम वहां पर कितना काम कर सकते हैं। इतना कहने के बाद मैं कहूंगा कि जो इस वक्त बड़ी बड़ी

[सरदार ए० एस० सहगल]

नदी घाटी की योजनाएं हमारे सामने काम कर रही हैं, उनके लिये मैं उनको हृदय से धन्यवाद देता हूं । यह हो सकता है कि उनकी इन योजनाओं में और कार्यों में हमारे कुछ भाईयों की वजह से अथवा किन्हीं अफसरों की वजह से यह जो बड़े बड़े डैम्स बन रहे हैं, उनमें गलतियां हो सकती हैं । मैंने खुद हीराकुड डैम में जाकर करीब-करीब तीन दिन में सारा काम देखा, और मैं उस बड़े काम को जो वहां पर हो रहा है उसको अपनी आंखों से देखकर मंत्री महोदय को बधाई दिये बगैर नहीं रह सकता । लेकिन मैं यह जरूर कहूंगा कि हमारे श्री गिरी जो लेबर के मिनिस्टर हैं उन्होंने वहां जाकर लेबर सम्बन्धी सारे झगड़े और चीजें तय कीं, उसके लिये यह कहा जाना कि वहां पर मिनिस्टर के जाने पर यह सारे झगड़े हुए, यह चीज गलत है कुछ लोग तो कितना भी अच्छा कोई डिपार्टमेंट हो उसके खिलाफ कहने के लिये इस तरह की बहुत सी चीजें जमा कर लेते हैं । इसी के साथ साथ मुझे भाखरा नांगल डैम को भी देखने का सुअवसर प्राप्त हुआ । इन सारी योजनाओं को देखने के बाद हम यह कह सकते हैं कि यह जो सारी योजनाएं देश में चल रही हैं अगर इन पर ठीक तरह से काम करने दिया जाय और हमारे दोस्त जो वहां के कार्य करने वाले लोग हैं उनको किसी किस्म से न बरगलायें तो हम कह सकते हैं कि हमारा देश बहुत आगे जायगा और दूसरे देशों के मुकाबले में बहुत उन्नतिशील हो जायगा । इन शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी बात खत्म करता हूं ।

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am deeply grateful for the words of appreciation that have come from many Members of this House. I am also deeply grateful for the words of caution and criticism which have proceeded from my hon. friend, Shri T. N. Singh and, to some extent, from the hon. Member, Dr. Meghnad Shah.

Yesterday I gave the House information about the progress of our irrition and power projects. This was mainly in terms of money expenditure. I also gave some information about the speed of execution and the dates when these projects or several stages of them will be completed. Now, just a little while ago, the hon. Member, Shri T. N. Singh told me that it is not proper and desirable to give the House the targets for completion of these projects. We should not hold out hopes. I totally disagree with him in this. Of course, I agree that we should not give targets which are not genuine, which are not realistic, which are not based on precise calculations, in the conditions in which those targets are framed. But, to be without targets would mean that there is no measuring rod by which we can judge the progress of the project.

Shri T. N. Singh: What I said was that we should not give out targets which we could not fulfil; our targets must be realistic.

Shri Nanda: I do not want to enter into a controversy. I only understood it that way and replied to that.

It may be that those targets may have to be altered because of change in conditions, but that is a different matter. We should always try to adhere to those targets and make those people who are responsible for carrying out these projects to try to remain within the schedule.

Sir, the hon. Member reminded me that the resources of this country are not too large and said that we should try to see that one rupee does the work of ten rupees. I cannot say exactly what it should be equal to but it is certainly good as far as possible. I am keenly aware of this aspect and I am quite sure in my mind that what I said about money and the speed of execution is not enough. There are other aspects more important even than that and that is the question of the soundness and the

economy in the matter of the working of these projects. I feel that we should try to see that not only these dams, barrages and cannals are built in time, but, that they are built well and also that these jobs are done at the least possible cost. I realise that where public funds are concerned there is risk of waste and, when these funds are very large, this risk also increases. Therefore, the need for great care becomes quite evident. In the case of the river irrigation and power programme of this country, the sums at stake are indeed very large, the total being Rs. 728 crores for this part of the Plan. Therefore, I am keenly aware of the fact that a very great responsibility lies on the shoulders of those who have to administer these funds. There is also another consideration. We have to see that the rates for water and power are such as can help in developing agriculture and industries. The question of cost becomes of tremendous significance. If avoidable expenses are added to the estimates, it would mean that the peasant is hurt ultimately and the prospect of increasing employment is curtailed to some extent. I am entirely with the hon. Member in this particular approach, namely, that we should try and see that our resources are utilised in the most economical manner.

I have also got another fact before my mind. In the past we have faced situations in which funds have been wasted to some extent. It may be that in those earlier stages it was a question of going forward in haste, there was not enough experience or possibly there was something like inefficient management. Whatever it was, it was wrong anyhow. This caution is well appreciated and well understood. I may assure the hon. Member and the House that so far as this Ministry is concerned.—it has been there for a year and eight months or so—it is constantly engaged in and strenously striving to improve, the organisation of the projects, to raise the level of efficiency and shut out loopholes of corruption and waste. This responsibility is being discharged to the best of our powers. With all humality, I may add that I feel that a measure of success is also being met with. Today, for example, there is hardly an unsanctioned estimate relating to the Hirakud Project. The rate of sickness of machinery is going down. I will not take up the time of the House in giving details like this. I may add that it is not just that certain things are brought to our notice and we try to set them right. We are constantly searching for avenues of improvement and reform. I cannot lay any claim that the conditions, as they are, are prefect and that there are no deficiencies. There is no end to the process of improvement. A number of things have been initiated, and these new courses of action will take some time before they can bear fruit. I might in this context acknowledge the fact that this process has been helped a good deal by these debates in the House and the criticisms made by hon. Members have helped us. Several hon. Members referred to the long chain of meetings from members of the various States regarding their special problems. I have pleasure in putting on record here my very great appreciation for all the help that I have received from those close discussions, which in the House it is not possible to get due to the limitation of time. Whatever has been said in those meetings is going to be pursued to the fullest extent possible. I may also pay a special tribute to the work of the Estimates Committee and the Public Accounts Committee. Although I may not fully agree with everything that they have said or I may not agree with their findings, which is a matter of detail, I must say that their work in totality has exercised an exceedingly healthy influence. My Ministry has tried earnestly to carry out the recommendations of these committees to the fullest possible extent and there has been no mental reservation. I have a list of about 20 officers about whom some action is in the hands of the Police, and in some cases prosecu-

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tions have been launched. I may circulate that list for the information of the hon. Member and need not take up the time of the House.

This Ministry has been called upon to assume new functions and responsibilities and that also leads to the conclusion that the whole organisation should be strengthened and made capable of playing its important role. I shall just give an idea of what these new functions are. The Ministry, besides watching the progress of all the projects included in the Plan, has taken over at the instance of the Planning Commission the responsibility of seeing that the State takes suitable action on the recommendations pertaining to irrigation and power development in the Five Year Plan and schemes for dealing with the permanent improvement of areas of chronic food shortage, for which a special provision of Rs. 40 crores has been made, are also brought within its purview. The work relating to irrigation and power schemes in Part B and C States has also been transferred to it. The C.W.P.C has been charged with the responsibility of scrutinising projects submitted by the States for inclusion in the Second Five Year Plan. They are also expected to watch the progress of all the projects pertaining to irrigation and power, included in the Five Year Plan, except minor irrigation.

I shall not take the time of the House in giving details of the various measures that have been adopted, and I shall find some other way of giving that information to the House. I would, however, like to indicate a few developments of an important character which have a vital bearing on sound planning and execution of river valley projects.

To enable the C.W.P.C. to advise on the optimum utilisation at the minimum cost of water resources in the country, it is necessary that basic hydrological data should be collected in a more systematic basis than hitherto. At present the States are doing their own investigations. The present position seems to be unsatisfactory, as the efforts are disjointed and may not lead to the optimum utilisation of water resources. As a first step the Planning Commission has already agreed to the constitution of two circles for the collection of basic hydrological data. It may be necessary for the CWPC to render more direct assistance to the States in order that there may be a sufficient number of properly investigated schemes for inclusion in the Second Five Year Plan.

A Directorate has been created in the Central Water and Power Commission which besides scrutinising all projects submitted by the State Governments has been charged with the task of maintaining a control room to watch the progress of projects now under way.

A scheme drawn up in collaboration with the TCM for the training of operators and mechanics of moving equipments has recently been sanctioned and proposals are under consideration for training thirty fresh engineering graduates and fifteen serving engineers from States on river valley projects.

To assess the requirements of technical personnel at various levels for our river valley projects and to supply deficiencies wherever necessary by the introduction of suitable schemes of training, the Ministry has taken steps to collect basic data and a register of expert engineers and other technical persons is being prepared.

Some steps have also been taken in connection with the formation of an All India Service of Engineers, whether in the full sense or in a partial sense, *i.e.* some States may come in along with the Centre for creating a pool for the purpose.

It is proposed to have some kind of a machinery for looking into the

question of personnel very soon. A machinery and equipment committee was appointed to examine the question of efficient operation and maintenance of plant and machinery used in the construction work of the river valley projects. It is expected that the implementation of the recommendations of the committee which are under consideration will make for considerable economies—I should say large economies—by increasing the output of mechanical equipment and lowering operating costs.

At present no basic data exists with reference to which rates assumed in project estimates can be checked, and as a result estimates have had to be revised from time to time, in an upward direction, so far. To remedy this deficiency the Ministry has appointed an expert committee to examine the rates pertaining to some of the more important river valley projects and prepare a comprehensive schedule of rates for major items of work to serve as a basic schedule for all projects.

In order to ensure a proper coordination of activities of all major river valley projects in the country and to enable heads of projects to exchange views on technical and administrative matters an engineers seminar was held early in January in Nangal. The conclusions reached are valuable and it was felt that in order to ensure speedy implementation of agreed conclusions, there should be a Central Coordination Committee of engineers and a parallel coordination board of Ministers concerned. Action is being taken to set up these committees.

It has been decided to hold these engineers' seminars periodically. Pooling of experience of authorities connected with various river valley projects will have a beneficial effect on efficiency and will ultimately make for economy in the execution of works. I might also inform hon. Members that two volumes have been issued regarding the proceedings of this seminar held at Bhakra-Nangal, copies of which, I hope hon. Members have received

Now, I come to some of the points raised in the course of the debate. I shall first take up the points made by the first speaker in the course of the debate, Dr. Meghnad Saha. The first criticism that he made was that we are too ambitious, that we cannot think in terms except of the biggest and the highest anywhere. I agree with him that bigness for its own sake should never be entertained: there should be no craze for bigness. But it has to be appreciated that the needs of a big country like ours are big and solutions have also to be thought out in big terms. I may remind my hon. friend who is a scientist that there is an expression known as "optimum". It is not a question of big or small. It is a question of the optimum use of resources. If the height of Bhakra dam is 680 feet, it is not because we want it to be 680 feet; it is because we have to store 7;4 million acre feet of water, we do not want to waste that. If there is to be a dam there, it has to be of this size.

If the idea is that we should not have only big dams but also have small and medium sized ones, I will answer that later. But the hon. Member's objection was on another ground—some kind of a scientific one. He said that the Himalayas are young mountains which could not possibly provide sufficiently strong foundation for this 680 feet dam. Sir, I do not know enough of geology myself, but we have engaged the most outstanding geologists, available in this country as well as brought some from outside and I would like to be content with their opinion regarding the strength of the foundations. From all sources it has been confirmed that there is no apprehension at all regarding what is being done at Bhakra now in respect of this dam.

Shri Meghnad Saha (Calcutta—North-West): Will the hon. Minister kindly place all the opinions of the experts on the Table of the House?

Shri Nanda: If the House desires, I am certainly prepared to give any

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information that we have. But, may I with your permission quote this:

> "Extensive explorations were made, tunnels over 1;3 miles length were constructed, bores over 3½ miles were drilled in the site and bed of the ghats in order to test the nature of the rocks which will carry the dam."

I may however point out that if the hon. Member has any reason to believe that he has material which can be usefully considered by a committee of expert geologists, let him give me that information and I will put it before those experts so that they can make good use of it. That is the position that I would like him to take.

Of the culturable area available to us only about 18 to 20 per cent. is irrigated now. We have to irrigate the other 80 per cent. and I do not think that minor irrigation or small scale irrigation is going to suffice.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Gurgaon): If the hon. Member, Dr. Meghnad Saha had any real grounds of apprehension about the site of the dam, we suggest they should be explored.

Shri Nanda: The hon. Member knew about Bakhra Nangal project long ago. We should welcome any information that the hon. Member has got about it.

During the period of the Plan we are spending on minor irrigations Rs. 122 crores and as I said, in medium irrigation Rs. 40 crores has been added recently. Therefore, it is not correct to say that other aspects are being neglected; they are being attended to adequately within the limits of our resources.

Then, the hon. Member referred to the question of foreign experts. There I agree with him that we should have as few of them as possible. They have no charm for me nor have I any special inhibitions regarding them. I want the work to be done and when such large amounts are being spent and also the question of soundness of construction etc. is there, then I would like to get the best advice; I would like to get the best assistance. But, it should be only where it is indispensable and it should be dispensed with by progressive stages. This is what we are doing. In Bhakra also; recently. about 10 or 15 people have been given notices and they are going. May be, in course of time our engineers, when they are allowed to do all these big projects, will be in such a position that they will not need any such assistance from outside and they may be able to assist others abroad; that may be the position. The hon. Member in one breadth told me "Why was there any delay in bringing the American engineer for the D.V.C.?" and then he said about these foreign experts also. So there are occasions when one feels the necessity for getting experts from outside.

He said: "Why are we so much interested or attracted by what is being done in the United States of America? There is so much of good work done in Soviet Russia and elsewhere also." There also, there is no restriction so far as getting superior knowledge on these technical matters is concerned and there will be no desire on our part to deprive ourselves of any such benefit. For example, some of our engineers are very shortly going to China to study how they are managing the flood problem.

He referred to the question of Tungabhadra and the question of utilisation. I agree that the question of utilisation is very important. After all, if you have made arrangements to store water and do not find lands which that should irrigate, what is the fun of it? Similialy, if we generate power and do not have industries and other uses for it, it is exceedingly wasteful. At some time earlier I had some apprehension in my mind about

the use of power. We have been warned again and again, and asked: "What will you do with this Hirakud power; what will you do with this D.V.C. power?" and so on. Today the position is that it is the other way about. Hirakud power is fully booked and there may not be enough of it soon. The D.V.C. is fully booked and there may be a shortage of it a few years hence. The reports for the other projects are also similar.

Regarding water, this Tungabhadra project is giving difficulties. The States were dealing with this matter and we could not do much at that stage, but now steps are being taken. Some arrangement was made in Madras for fuller utilisation of the water, but the thing did not seem to proceed very far. Now, the Andhra State Government has taken up the matter and we are trying to do everything possible.

Shri C. R. Chowdary: In case the State fails to implement the plan as suggested by the Centre in the case of Tungabhadra, is the Centre prepared to take up and develop that area?

Shri Nanda: We do not want to take away the functions of the State and it is for them to do all that. If we start taking up such things, one after the other things will be pushed on to the Centre.

The hon. Member, Dr. Saha, referred to the D.V.C., Konar, the question of rates etc. The question of D.V.C. report also arose. I have to clarify one point in this respect. I was under the impression that that report had been sent to the press. That was the intention, but somehow or other, in time it was prevented, so that the copies did not go to the press. But, copies were in the hands of several hon. Members of the Estimates Committee and that is all I have to say about it. Regarding the question as to how this thing started, I need not have mentioned this, except for the fact that the hon. Member reminded me that some time back he had told me about excess in the Konar rates. Acting on that information and other information which I had, I set up a committee of enquiry. The idea was that the rates in the case of that contract were too high. The Committee has gone into the matter and I am looking into it also with a view to seeing whether any steps can be taken to recover the amount of the excess. As soon as the Estimates Committee has dealt with the matter, there will be an occasion for the House to deal with this report.

Shri Meghnad Saha: How long is it that the report of the committee was in the hands of the Government? I think it is about six months, and why is it that the Government has not taken any action on the findings of the committee in spite of the fact that they have clearly indicated that there was a ring of people cheating the Government to the extent of Rs. 1,65,00,000?

Shri Nanda: I will not enter into details but I can assure the hon. Member that for the very first day the report came, we have been attending to it. We had an inter-State conference between the Bihar Government, Bengal Government and the Central Government and this matter was examined. There were some other issues involved which required prolonged consideration on our part. When the time comes. I shall be able to give all these facts which will show that we have been fully active in this matter.

He had also referred to the question of the railway; there is too much of traffic there and therefore further development is withheld because they cannot increase those facilities. I have learnt that a proposal is being entertained for electrifying the Railway there and to meet the problem in this way.

There was some reference to Orissa: that is with regard to personnel from Orissa not being adequate on the

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Hirakud project. I have figures—I will give them to the hon. Member—which show that the ratio of men from Orissa at all levels has been progressively increasing. I think I have dealt with the general points raised by Shri Meghnad Saha and other hon. Members.

There are some specific matters and suggestions from various Members regarding the projects in their constituencies and regarding the proposals from the States for inclusion in this Plan or the Second Five Year Plan. I had, as I said, the very valuable opportunity of discussing all these matters with the hon. Members concerned and possibly it would not serve any useful purpose to go over the whole ground again. I can understand and appreciate the anxiety of the hon. Members for trying to secure better irrigation facilities for certain areas, particularly scarcity areas. In that regard, investigations are in progress for some areas and action has been decided upon regarding other areas. So far as the major projects are concerned, I would like to say this. Take the project in Krishna for example. It was said, why is it that we are holding this up, whereas other new schemes are coming in. Koyna and Rihand were also mentioned. They are among the five projects in the first Five Year Plan. Chambal is going on. Why not this Nandi Konda project? The difference is this. Regarding Chambal, there was no difference of opinion between the States concerned. Even there, the Centre has not advanced any funds so far. The work is being carried out with the help of funds provided by the State themselves. In the case of this project, there were certain differences. There was a report which had certain alternatives included in it. Certain investigations had to be made. They have been practically completed. We expect some joint report from these two Governments. That does not necessarily mean that if the two Governments do not agree, nothing will be done. Let the report come. We will certainly deal with it on its merits. There will be no delay at all. It is one of the projects in the first Five Year Plan. Therefore, provision has to be made for it as soon as these procedures and the necessary security are completed.

Similarly other projects were mentioned also. Kunda is under scrutiny at present. Periyar was mentioned. There was a dispute between the States of Madras and Travancore-Cochin regarding this project and this is being held up for certain reasons. I think we will have to take it up also and see that the obstacles are overcome. Gandak is one of the most attractive projects. I have looked in to the figures and data about it. But, I would ask the hon. Members to bear this in mind. With the utmost hurry, we will not be able to bring this in the first Five Year Plan. Even for Kosi we have not been able to set up an organisation so far.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya (Muzaffarpur Central): We appreciate that.

Shri Nanda: Personally, I believe that judging by the data, this project stands a very good chance. This will have to be considered in relation to the Second Five Year Plan.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has only five minutes more.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is the Gandak project being considered?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order; let him finish his reply.

Shri Nanda: It is not being considered by the Ministry. The data will be before the CWPC and they will be submitted to the special Committee which is going into all the projects which make a claim for inclusion in the Second Five Year Plan. They will be considered there.

I am being reminded by an hon. Member about Madhya Pradesh. I have not mentioned that. There are several projects which have been investigated. Some were dropped at the instance of the State Government. Some have been pursued and have been completed. A decision is going to be taken regarding, for example, Satyara and Dudhuwa, and after consultation and agreement between the States and ourselves, further steps will be proceeded with. As I said earlier, the whole river potential is going to be examined in relation to the whole of the country. Even if a State is not alert and does not come forward with a project, it does not mean that there should not be a project there. It is our responsibility to see that all the resources of the country are examined and developed to the utmost extent, particularly in those areas which have been behind.....

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Like Bihar.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Nanda:.....which have not had the advantage and opportunity which the other States have had, regarding power, for instance, in the South and some irrigation projects; they should receive prior consideration so that there may be an equitable and just arrangement throughout the country.

I realise that there is not much time left. I think I have answered most of the points. There is just one matter. An hon. Member from that side reminded me about the disparity or discrepancy between the figures which I have cited and some information which was given by the Finance Minister as coming from the Planning Commission. There was a shortfall of Rs. 9 crores and ultimately it turned out to be Rs. 3 crores, which also had an element from Harike, about Rs. 1 crore or so. After the auditing had been completed, that final information came to us. The information from the Planning Commission had arrived earlier. They could not bring it up-to-date. It is not that there was some kind of negligence in the matter. But, the final information was made available later.

With a deep feeling of gratitude to the hon. Members I would say that whatever criticism is made and whatever deficiencies have been pointed out will be taken earnest and serious notice of.

We are engaged in the task of seeing to it that we raise our projects to the highest level of efficiency and economy.

Shri Boovaraghasamy: May I ask one question, Sir? The hon. Minister said in the course of his reply that he will examine the resources and utilisation of all the rivers in the country. He has not mentioned even a single word regarding the surplus resources of the Cauvery and how he is going to utilise them.

Shri Nanda: I shall give that information to the hon. Member.

Mr. Speaker: Some other time; not now.

I shall now put the cut motions to the House. I take it that all of them may be put to vote together unless any hon. Member wants any particular cut motion to be put separately.

The cut motions were negatived.

Mr. Speaker: I will now put the Demands to the House. The question is:

> "That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper in respect of Demands Nos. 61, 62, 63, 64, 128 and 129 be granted to the President to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of the corresponding heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof."

The motion was adopted.

[*The motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the House are reproduced below.*—Ed. of P.P.]

DEMAND NO. 61—MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,70,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Ministry of Irrigation and Power'."

DEMAND NO. 62—IRRIGATION (INCLUDING WORKING EXPENSES), NAVIGATION, EMBANKMENT AND DRAINAGE WORKS (MET FROM REVENUE)

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 27,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Irrigation (including Working Expenses), Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works (met from Revenue)'."

DEMAND NO. 63—MULTIPURPOSE RIVER SCHEMES

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 38,23,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Multipurpose River Schemes'."

DEMAND NO. 64—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 31,75,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Irrigation and Power'."

DEMAND NO. 128—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON MULTIPURPOSE RIVER SCHEMES

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,65,61,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Multipurpose River Schemes'."

DEMAND NO. 129—OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,63,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power'."

5 P.M.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now proceed with the consideration of the Demands for Grants Nos. 59, 60 and 217 relating to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.*

I find some noise coming from the Official Gallery. Order, order, in the Gallery please.

Shri Chattopadhyaya (Vijayavada): While the Speaker is standing, they should not stand.

Mr. Speaker: They are outside the House. But still the sound travels in.

Members and Leaders of Groups may hand over the numbers of the cut motions which they select, to the Secretary in fifteen minutes. I will

*Moved with the previous sanction of the President.

treat them as moved, if those hon. Members in whose names those cut motions stand are present in the House and they are otherwise in order.

The usual time-limit for speeches will be observed.

I shall now place the Demands before the House.

DEMAND NO. 59—MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

Mr. Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,27,34,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of Payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1953, in respect of 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting'."

DEMAND NO. 60—BROADCASTING

Mr. Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,12,82,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of Payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Broadcasting'"

DEMAND NO. 127—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON BROADCASTING

Mr. Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,83,93,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of Payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Broadcasting'."

Retrenchment in All India Radio Stations in India

Shri V. P. Nayar (Chirayinkil): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

Local language Broadcasting Station in Tripura for the upliftment of the tribals

Shri Biren Dutt (Tripura West): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

Inclusion of progressive poems, songs and dramas in the broadcasts

Shri V. P. Nayar: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

Exhibition of news reels produced by foreign concerns as news reels like the Paramount News propagating false news and biased versions of incidents

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

Failure of the Censor Board to improve and keen up the standard of Indian films

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

Failure of Government to prevent exhibition of obscene pictures imported from America

Shri N. B. Chowdhury (Ghatal): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

Lack of necessary provision for broadcasting and wide publicity in the rural areas about the schemes under the Five Year Plan in Andhra State

Shri Gadilingana Gowd (Kurnool): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

General policy followed by the Ministry

Shri N. R. Naidu (Rajahmundry): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

Failure of Government to prevent insult offered to Hindu Gods in cinema films like "Samrat"

Dr. N. B. Khare (Gwalior): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

Defective procedure in film production

Sardar Hukam Singh (Kapurthala-Bhatinda): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

Music artistes screening committee

Sardar Hukam Singh: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

Appointment of staff artistes

Sardar Hukam Singh: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

Failure to set up a corporation to control broadcasting on the lines of B. B. C.

Sardar Hukam Singh: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

Grievances of the staff in A.I.R. Stations

Shri P. N. Rajabhoj (Sholapur—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

Use of medium wave transmitters for home services

Sardar Hukam Singh: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

Nepotism and corruption in the Broadcasting Department specially All India Radio Stations in Delhi and Calcutta and the unsatisfactory treatment meted out to the staff, including well known artists

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

Party bias in the news broadcast by A.I.R. specially during elections when the speeches of Congress Chiefs alone are propagated

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

Recent retrenchment of Programme Assistants in All India Radio

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta North-East): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

Music policy and work of light music units of All India Radio

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

Living conditions of ordinary staff artists of All India Radio

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

Programme policy of All India Radio

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

Improvement of Broadcasting station at Vijayawada in Andhra State

Shri N. R. Naidu: I beg to move.

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

Indifference to rules in Broadcasting

Sardar Hukam Singh: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100".

Shri Chattopadhyaya: I do not wish to mince matters nor call the Jack of Spades the King of Hearts. A great English writer once said that when a little man casts a long shadow, the sun is setting. The Information and Broadcasting Ministry is manned by a Minister who is thoroughly incompetent.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh (Shahabad South): No, no.

Shri Chattopadhyaya: And during the short period he has occupied the chair, to which he has hardly done justice, he has won for himself the unenviable reputation of being a first-class bungler.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: No, no.

Shri Chattopadhyaya: He has a Midas touch with a difference; while the touch of Midas transmuted everything into gold, Dr. Keskar's touch has been consistently transforming everything into ashes. And there is a difference in the quality of the ashes left behind by the hydrogen bomb and Dr. Keskar's ashes. While the former is radioactive, the latter is radio-inactive. Dr. Keskar assumed office with bombast, which turned out to be a 'bomburst' despite his voice lacking the quality of honest detonation. By the countless gods of India, he swore that he would reorientate the programme policy of All India Radio. I wish, for goodness's sake, he had reorientated himself before he set out to reorientate the programme policy, which has resulted in a number of unfortunate complications and even more unfortunate implications.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA *in the Chair*]

Here are a few of the numerous circus feats he performed in the air—I mean AIR. He set up a Central Advisory Board of Music, and the Board has not been above board by any stretch of imagination, either his own, if he has any, or ours. Then, he set out to appoint special artists

[Shri Chattopadhyaya]

with nothing special about them except their striking mediocrity. This entailed reduction of the regular programme staff.

Then, he set out to ban film music, and suddenly and automatically, he had a Dr. Keskar's vision of replacing it with light music to be created by creators created by the creator himself. Now, the light music so far created has been exceptionally light, while the drain on the money exceptionally heavy.

Then came the conceited Screening Committee, with a view to grade artists. But the result has been not grading of artists, but degrading of them in a very real sense of humiliation. This grading business has been thoroughly mischievous, and demands immediate scrapping of the scurrilous Screening Committee.

Serious and—I am convinced—irrefutable charges have been levelled against this injurious jury, consisting of father confessors who, it is time, confessed their own sins. This prejudiced policy has reached such heights—or shall I say, such depths—that the All India Radio, only the other day, refused to relay the All India Music Festival organised by the Sangeet Natak Akadami, on the untenable plea that several of the artists taking part there were condemned artists. But these socalled condemned artists supported by the thousands of their admirers condemn that man who is sitting there

Now, I would like to say a few special words about the light music stunt started by a man of stunts, with stunted vision. Special artists have been specially appointed on high salaries, to create special music. The Information and Broadcasting Ministry is overcrowded with specialists today.

In Delhi, for instance, a Hindi writer, chiefly of prose, on a salary of Rs. 950 p.m., has been placed in charge of light music. Bhagwati Charan Verma is a friend of mine, but that does not make him a musician. If it did, then many of the gentlemen sitting in the Treasury Benches, who are friends of mine, would all have turned musicians long ago. Bhagwati writes Hindi songs for light music, but I am sorry to say that his language, I think, would suit preferably scientific formulae, instead of song-writing.

Similar is the case of Shri Narendra Sharma at the Bombay Station of AIR. Then, there is Shri V. G. Jog, at Lucknow, who has at least been quite honest to admit his 'nimcompoopability' with regard to light music. Apart from these mountain-producing-rat producers, there are one or two composers, who are attached to every unit, over and above the ordinary programme staff artists. They draw salaries not less than Rs. 400 p.m., but they know what, not to compose music, but to decompose it.

Thousands of rupees are being expended in this Department, and we have a right to enquire as to what this expenditure has produced in the form of musical creation. And this enquiry should be extended as well to the department of orchestral music. Our enquiries will make us stagger at the staggering figure that is expended on the departments which conceive more than thrice and bring forth less than nothing.

Under the apparently honest and laudable head 'Improvement of Programmes', wholly inexperienced favourites of the Information and Broadcasting Minister have been appointed as producers, directors, advisers, supervisors and Wilhelm Kaisers, who have ousted from their long-held jobs, programme assistants with years of experience and training. It is a shame for us. These favourites of a thin man have been appointed on fat salaries. One example amongst several—only one of many—is deserving of mention.

A B-class woman musician of Nagpur Station—whom a few years ago the regular Selection Board had rejected as unfit for the situation of Programme Assistant—now seems to be occupying a room in the Directorate which a Deputy Director General has been made to vacate. She draws a monthly salary of Rs. 950, from the Delhi Station funds; she attends high-level meetings, if you please, Sir. And it is interesting to know that she is attached to the Director General—I mean attached as Director of Music. But the last straw that breaks the camel's back is, Sir—I am told—that she signs documents for the D. G. himself! Oh Dr. Keskar! Oh Dr. Mutatkar!

As a climax to all this came the retrenchment scandal. Dr. Keskar wanted to find money for "Improvement of Programmes", a substantial portion of which, of course, was to go to pay the exorbitant salaries of Special Aritists, Rs. 10 lakhs were badly needed. Well, for this purpose, the Finance Ministry had sanctioned only Rs. 3·52 lakhs. Rs. 6·48 lakhs were somehow to be found, Rs. 6·48 lakhs were somehow to be made to come in—so fifty Programme Assistants had somehow to be made to go out. Dr. Keskar not only finds the money but also finds excuses to find the money. Some of his patent excuses are: economy, surplus staff, temporary hands, total rejection by the UPSC. This last excuse of total rejection should be totally rejected, I say, as nothing but downright falsehood, since the UPSC has clearly stated that these P. As. should continue in their service while waiting for a chance to be re-selected in the next selections. This is ministerial humbug, I say. To talk of surplus staff, for instance, is nothing short of insanity. Programme Assistants are worked from 10 in the morning to 10 in the night until they become regular wrecks—physical, spiritual, mental. They need relief from such pressure—do you not agree with me? Who will deny my statement?

Then again, according to the Five Year Plan, besides equipping existing stations with more powerful transmitters, new stations are envisaged to be opened at Indore, Bangalore, Jodhpur, Gwalior and Rajkot. What does all this mean? This means that more Programme Assistants will be needed, which knocks out the bottom of Dr. Keskar's 'surplus' excuse.

There were two things I had referred to in my last speech in Parliament on a similar occasion. I spoke about high power transmitters and the need for a station like Vijayawada to have a high power transmitter. At the present moment—for a long time—it has had only a one KW transmitter—which is a shame. It cannot reach beyond 50 miles. It has become a very important station; it always has been. Now, in view of the fact that the Andhra State has come into being, it is much more important that Vijayawada should be a high power station. Sir, I am told that a 50 KW transmitter is lying idle. Why should it not be used? I suggest that it be immediately given to Vijayawada so that the large areas of Telugu-speaking people may have reception of music and all the cultural side of the Telugu life direct from Vijawayada.

An Hon. Member: Short wave.

Shri Chattopadhyaya: Yes, short wave.

This does not involve any extra cost because there is already a 50 KW transmitter there.

With regard to converting the AIR into a Corporation, you remember, Sir, I suggested in my very first speech on the I.& B. Ministry, that it should become a Corporation, because AIR belongs to the people and not to just a handful of us who are trying to manoeuvre the AIR according to our own whims and fancies. It belongs to the people and the people should have it. But the excuses given by Dr. Keskar are excuses which I could have exploded if I had the time.

[Shri Chattopadhyaya]

Due to the peculiar nature of broadcasting, All India Radio has been given the option to appoint artists on contract without the previous intimation or permission of the Finance Ministry; nor do they even go before the Public Service Commission. But in such appointments the Director General has to be very very particular and exhibit a very high sense of responsibility. Dr. Keskar has time and again misused and abused this privilege, as I could prove to the hilt by the numerous cases...

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): You are making tall claims. You are accusing Dr. Keskar indiscriminately. It is beneath the level of the dignity of the House. (*Interruptions*)

Mr. Chairman: Order, order.

Shri Chattopadhyaya: Do not lose your temper. I am making a statement on behalf of my people. I have numerous cases which stare one in the face. I wonder if they do not stare at Dr. Keskar's face sometimes, and if they do, I wonder how he faces that stare.

Now, with regard to the National Programme, just one word.

The National Programme is now exhausted and along with it we are also exhausted. So is the light music we are disgusted with the in-season-and-out-of-season and in-reason-and-out-of-reason speeches of Ministers who love to hear their own voices.

Well, I am afraid you have rung the bell too early for me. I have so much more to say.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Oh!

Shri Chattopadhyaya: Sir, we are more than overfed with these endless speeches of various Ministers who exaggerate their self-importance.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Nobody does it more than you.

Shri Chattopadhyaya: We are also fed on recorded speeches made at functions, and when, Sir, do we hear from any Minister a speech which elevates the mind or means anything to the people? And by the way, I should like to add that the recent Festival at the Red Fort should have been called 'an Orgy of speeches' rather than a Festival of Music. I had much more to say, but I shall stop now.

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): Thank you.

Shri Chattopadhyaya: But I should like to ask just two questions. I should like to ask how many persons since Dr. Keskar took charge, whose names end in 'kar'—have been added to the Information and Broadcasting Ministry pay roll? I come to learn—it is rather amusing—that AIR is now called by the people as "AMR" —All Mahratta Radio. I do not know how far that is true.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Absurd.

Shri Chattopadhyaya: How many candidates rejected by the UPSC for posts carrying Rs. 300 to Rs. 400 are now on three times that salary? These are the two questions I would like the Minister of Information and Broadcasting to answer.

One more word and I have done. Sir, all this makes us feel so giddy that we have come dangerously near to vomitting point. The present Minister gives us a fit with his unfitness. Further investigation will reveal to us many more skeletons in the cupboard. I demand that a Parliamentary Commission go into the entire working of the I. & B. Ministry, particularly since the start of Dr. Keskar's regime. As an artist, Sir, as a man of my people.....

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): Question.

Shri Chattopadhyaya: I am afraid you are ignorant of the fame of personalities. I make bold to say that

Dr. Keskar has no place in the democratic Republic of India. He should be....

Shri Raj Bahadur: What a democrat you yourself are!

Shri Chattopadhyaya: I appeal to the Prime Minister to have him sacked forthwith. Thank you.

Shri Kanungo (Kendrapara): Sir, I have the unique disadvantage of getting an opportunity to speak after a reputed showman. I have no claims to go near about him. Taking his last point first, he has asked as the final thing for a Parliamentary Commission to go into the Ministry. I do not know for what. Evidently, he has tried to find drains where there are none and tried to spread out as much muck and mud as he could.

I can tell you that at this moment a Parliamentary Committee is going into the affairs of the A.I.R. and it will have to report to this House.

Shri Raj Bahadur: He does not know that. He is so ill informed and misinformed.

An Hon. Member: Who has appointed that Committee?

Shri Kanungo: The Parliament has appointed that Committee; the Estimates Committee is going into that question.

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. It is the Estimates Committee of this House.

Shri Kanungo: My friend Shri Chattopadhyaya's conception of democracy is different from mine and therefore we must agree to differ.

I am not going to refer to all the mud that he has thrown about but I can say this much that till now the organisation of the A.I.R. was in a most disorganised condition. The administration of any organisation cannot go on unless they know the best use for the money they get. Till now they had lots of temporary people; they had not worked out the requirements for the permanent staff. Their programme policy was one of hit and miss. The House and the public of the country know that since the last two years system has been introduced, where there had been lack of it to a certain extent, and Dr. Keskar is responsible for it. We know today what we can expect from the A.I.R., which is our greatest unifying force in the country. I submit, today, in this country where all the fissiparous tendencies are running amuck, the A.I.R. and the Army are the two forces which can bind this nation together, I am proud to say that today A.I.R. has laid the foundations on which a sound, homogeneous and cultured nation can be built up.

My friend said something about retrenchment of staff and all that. Referring back to my earlier point, up till now it was all unsystematic and it had to be so because of the effects of partition and it being a new departmental activity started by the Government. They were stumbling over things and they were gaining experience. Today, we can say that we have a systematised organisation. Programme and planning are there now which were not present before. I am not going to say about the quality of the staff, as my hon. friend has done. I can only say that competent persons, perhaps more competent than my friend—he is certainly competent—have expressed their opinion that the quality has improved. The bazar stuff that was going round and the vulgarised entertainment that was being given to the people has been stopped and the people of this country who are not vocal, who are not showmen, have expressed their opinion that there has been a definite improvement, an improvement for good, of which the country can be proud. In the process of systematisation, it is necessary that a lot of surplus has got to be weeded out. It has been

[Shri Kanungo]

done and I believe the U.P.S.C. has been consulted because that is the procedure of the Government. The U.P.S.C. has made certain recommendations with which I and you may not agree, but they are an impartial Tribunal which the Constitution has set up and they have screened people and given them places. I believe the Government of India and the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting must have accepted those recommendations. There is bound to have been a certain amount of displacement which has happened everywhere. The expansions of wartime have got to be contracted and finance is the guiding factor. But, by and large, the effect on the organisation has been sound and everyone, instead of being uncertain and being continued from year to year has, once and for all known where he stands. It is good also for the organisation and the individuals concerned. I do not know the exact number of people that have been displaced. In all undertakings, when the work contracts and is systematised, the surplus peopie have got to be done away with. You cannot claim in the same breath economy and efficiency on the one hand and no retrenchment on the other. My impression is that the amount of displacement is very little as compared with the total staff. The total staff has been adequately planned out for the developments and expansions which have been taken on hand and I would submit that, today, we have got a definite plan of expansion in the A.I.R. Two years, or even one year ago, we did not know what it was. We can complain, we can recriminate. My hon. friend just now said that the power of the Vijayawada station has got to be increased. I will say that the power of the Cuttack station has got to be increased. Similarly, others might say that the power of Bangalore and Saurashtra stations has got to be increased. We leave it to the Minister to judge which has to come first; we leave the priorities to him. There are a number of considerations. I think the amount of listeners, the amount of licence fee received, the amount of radio sets in use, the availability of artists have all to be considered. I suppose the expansion taken up by the Ministry is good and there is satisfaction in the country as a whole.

The difficult position in which the head of the Ministry stands today has to be taken into consideration. He has got to reconcile conflicting claims and he has got to do it to the best of his ability and capacity. We have all got to bear with him, if we do not get our pet ideas accepted by him. After all, our wisdom is not the last word and our claims are not the strongest. Therefore, I would submit that today, in the whole history of A.I.R. the systematisation of the organisation, the programme and planning has been such that we know where we are. Whether people are mediocres or supers or inferiors, it is not my judgment or that of Mr. Chattopadhyaya that can assess. He may think that somebody is a super artist; I may think he is a dud. There are qualities other than artistic qualities which the Government has got to consider. I am satisfied and the country is satisfied that system has been brought in. There is the Selection Committee which does it impersonally. The personnel of the Selection Committee might not meet with the approval of everybody. But, they are acceptable persons, they have got a reputation in the country and their judgment is taken to be the best. During the past years certain vested interests had grown up. In fact, there have been rackets running in various stations. I hope the House will realise that once for all these rackets have been put an end to. Whether the best people have got the best places or not. I cannot say and the country will have to judge this in course of time. But

there is system, and there is method. You cannot class the artists as A, B or C according to the whims of the Station Directors. Here is a body to judge of the artists—who are themselves artists and who know the sensitivities of the artists—and they judge by the best tests that could be devised. Today we know there is system. About the personnel, whether X is good or bad or indifferent, I do not know whether the hon. Minister himself will be able or competent to say that, but I submit that to bandy about persons, who are not in this House, and to cast aspersions upon their reputation or upon their artistic merits is unfair and that too from a gentleman who calls himself an artist. He has made light of the programme of classical music and light classical music. Perhaps many showmen have suffered. There is already a volume of opposition—which I am glad has died out—from the interested quarters, from commercial quarters, which have been up against the policy of the All India Radio, but it is dying its natural death. It is true that the country and in this House, Member after Member, have criticised the stuff being put out by the All India Radio. After a period of deliberate vulgarisation, and creation of bad taste by commercial and vested interests, we are today on the steps of a regular plan. We will have the resurrection of Indian art and Indian music and I hope that it is the beginning of an era of which our future generations will be proud. It is a very hard and taxing work, and I hope the Minister in charge will have all the courage and fortitude and patience to go through it. I assure him that he has got the full support of the House.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Hoshiarpur): I tell you very sincerely and honestly that I am not in a mood to make the speech which I wanted to make this afternoon.

Shri S. S. More: Sit down then.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I will sit down when people like him get out of the House. I cannot sit down as long as things are said which hurt the elementary sense of human decency; as long as bombast is thought to be poetry, I am not going to sit down; as long as venom is thought to be wit, I am not going to sit down; as long as abuse is thought to be eloquence, I am not going to sit down. I am speaking in order to put some sense into myself and perhaps into the heads of others. I have been a witness of many angry scenes in the House.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

I have listened to many heated discussions in the House. I have seen in the House occasions when the Ministers' policies have been called into question. I have seen in the House people whose judgments have been questioned. I have seen all these things in the House, but I must say in all fairness to myself, and perhaps in all fairness to my hon. friends in the House, that I have never witnessed a series or collection of abusive epithets, which have been flung about in the air as if with the air of a man who is perhaps showering pearls right and left. The hon. Minister may have made some mistakes, but who does not make mistakes? The hon. Minister may have gone wrong here and there. The hon. Minister may not have appointed my nominee or somebody else's nominee. The hon. Minister may not have selected the musician after my heart or after the heart of someone else. The hon. Minister may not have given the programme to a person whom I favour and given it to someone else whom I may not favour. He might have done all that. We are sitting in the House which represents the whole of India. Are we going to bring down the level of the House by talking about small or trivial things? I do not think so. I do not think we should try to bring down the dignity of the House in this way. When I was listening to the speech of an hon. friend—I do not wish to mention the

[Shri D. C. Sharma]

name—I was reminded of a character in H.G. Wells's novels. I do not know if I should quote what he says about that character, but as I am on my legs, let me quote it. He says about that character that he never talked sense when he was sober, and he talked superb nonsense when he was not sober.

Shri Nambiar (Mayuram): Misquotation.

Shri D. C. Sharma: It is a quotation which the hon. Member has never heard, because he has never read H. G. Wells. It is my good fortune that I have read H. G. Wells and it is not my friend's good fortune that he has not heard about him, but I am not here to give him a lecture on H. G. Wells.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: When the Information and Broadcasting Ministry is taken up, the House seems to be hilarious.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I was going to say that my hon. friend said, "Look at the programme assistants; they are physical wrecks, mental wrecks, spiritual wrecks and financial wrecks." There are some programme assistants whom I know as some of them are my old students. I meet some of them as often as I meet any of my hon. friends here, and I can say that those programme assistants are as smart, as intelligent and as healthy-looking as any other employees of the Union of India. I do not see any reason why such a dark picture should have been painted about them. As the hon. Member who preceded me said, we have been trying to re-organise the whole system of broadcasting. I belong to a small committee and I know that the programme of broadcasting is being taken up at every level—programme for school children, programme for universities, programme for villages, programme for women, programmes for all levels of our society (*Interruption*) and I find that everything is being done, if I can use the words, to bring the programme on to those lines that are conducive to intellectual and social welfare of the large population of our country. This is what is being done. As a member of the Programme Advisory Committee, which consists of 25 or 30 members, I can say that hard thinking is being done on all the programmes. It is possible that those programmes are being rethought, re-organised, re-planned and a new form is going to be given to them so that they can do the utmost good. About light music, I know a great deal of controversy is going on in the country. What is light music? My hon. friend cannot understand what people mean by light music, but I may tell him that by light music, people mean the cheap songs which are sung about in the streets and which are demoralising and vulgarising the tastes of all sections of the people from school children upwards. This is what is meant by light music. When the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting are doing something to give songs to the people which will delight them, I do not see any reason why they should be criticised in this manner. I find that this unit has come into being only recently. There are some people who can write poems in two or three minutes; I know also that there are some who can write a drama in two or three hours. No doubt they are wonderful people. But you cannot create music in such a short time. You have to build up traditions and that too to do it upon old foundations which have been in our country all these years. By building upon old foundations, we are going to evolve a new type of light music, which without vulgarising the taste of the people, will provide them with entertainment. I would counsel critics of light music units to wait for some time and then see the results. I know some time back a concert of light music was held and I can say it was a success.

I want to say a few words about one or two important matters. I am

sorry I was drawn into this controversy because of the speech of my hon. friend over there.

It has to be appreciated that this is a very big Ministry dealing with so many subjects: it deals with broadcasting, it deals with the Press, it deals with films, it deals with publications, and the day is not far off when it will have to deal with television. But I should admit that this Ministry is not doing as much as it should, so far as censoring of films is concerned. I have nothing to say against the Board of Film Censors, or any member of it. But I must frankly admit that for some time I have been feeling that the standard of our films has been going down considerably and greater vigilance is needed on the part of Film Censors to prevent this. In economics there is a theory called Gresham's Law, according to which a bad coin is supposed to drive a good coin out of circulation. I find that law in actual operation in the film world of India. The lowest denominator of taste is being used in order to raise box office receipts. The Film Censor Board must do its duty much more vigilantly than it is doing at present. At the same time, the Ministry should make a bold and concerted effort to produce the right type of films for our children. I know the taste of our youth is not what it should be, because of the films that are now being exhibited. The elder people also see these films. I must say that a healthy and wholesome taste must be cultivated among children. The Information and Broadcasting Ministry should have a unit to produce films for children. The Ministry should at the same time make sure that films which are not useful to the children should not be exhibited to them. Of course, films are classified, as meant for adults only or suitable for universal exhibition. But this rule is observed more in its breach. It is high time the Film Board did something in this direction.

I would also say that there should be more of collaboration and integration between the Information and Broadcasting Ministry at the Centre and its counterparts in the States. For instance, we have now got a scheme for popularising the Five-Year Plan. We are doing that with a great deal of effort. I know that is the right thing to be done. With a view to popularising the Plan in the country, books are brought out and mobile units taken out. But I must say that in all earnestness it is being done more in the interest of the urban population than in the interests of the rural population. For instance, we had an exhibition here at the time of the Railway Centenary. I have nothing to say against it. But I would say that the publicity in connection with the Five-Year Plan should be extended to every *tahsil* and every village in India which has a population of at least 2,000 to 3,000. Unless that is done the integrated publicity scheme of the Five Year Plan will not bring about the necessary results. We should also see that there is one information service: there should be integration between the States and the Centre. Unless that is done there are bound to be difficulties and anomalies.

I feel there is great need in our country for documentaries. I know commercial producers do not produce documentaries, because they do not bring them much money. They produce only those films which bring them money. I know our Information and Broadcasting Ministry is producing some documentaries. But the documentaries that are produced should give an idea of the cultural heritage of our country and also bring the different States of the country nearer to each other.

In the end, I must say that the Information and Broadcasting Ministry has been doing a very good job. I have with me the reports on the working of the Information Ministries in other countries and had only

[Shri D. C. Sharma]

time permitted, I would have compared our achievements with theirs. But, unfortunately, I have not the time to do it. I congratulate the Minister of Information and Broadcasting for the good work that he has been doing in spite of the opposition, in spite of the criticism, in spite of the abuse that has been showered upon him.

श्रीमती उमा नेहरू (जिला सीतापुर व जिला खेरी---पश्चिम): जनाब डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब आज मेरा कतई इरादा नहीं था कि आज मैं बोलूं लेकिन जब मैंने देखा कि यह हाउस जो है इसकी शान में फर्क आ रहा है और जिस शान से हम इस हाउस में आए, यहां बैठ कर ऐसा मालूम होता था कि इंसान न मालूम किस चौबच्चे में बैठा हुआ है जहां इस तरह की बातें सुनें। मैंने जिस वक्त आज भारत के कवि महाशय का व्याख्यान यहां पर सुना तो मुझे बहुत दुःख हुआ और दुःख मुझे इस बात का हुआ क्योंकि मैं समझती हूं कि जो भी कवि होता है वह इस जमीन से बहुत ऊंचा रहता है। लेकिन आज मुझे मालूम हुआ कि जो कवि ने बातें कहीं वे जमीन के तले की बातें कहीं। इसलिये मुझे बहुत दुःख हुआ और मैंने सोचा कि मेरा फर्ज है कि मैं इस हाउस की शान को कायम रखूं। मुझे यह कहना है कि आज जो हमारे कवि ने बातें कहीं उनको सुन कर मुझे ऐसा मालूम होता था कि जैसे बम्बई के अखबारों के पर्चे मेरे सामने आ गये हों जैसे बाबूराव पटेल वगैरह लिखते हैं। यह सुन कर मैंने सोचा कि इसके बारे में कुछ कहूं। मैं इस चीज में बहुत दिलचस्पी रखती हूं और मैं आपको बताऊं कि मैं इधर उधर के और रेडियो के बहुत गाने सुना करती हूं। पहले जो मैं रेडियो पर गाने सुनती थी वह ज्यादातर फिल्मी गाने होते थे। मुझे कोई फिल्मी गानों से चिढ़ नहीं है लेकिन मैं यह पसन्द नहीं करती कि हमारे घरों के बच्चे उन गानों को गावें। मैं तो यह भी पसन्द नहीं करती कि हमारे इक्केवाले भी उन गानों को गावें, जैसे लारी लप्पा का गाना मैंने सुना। तो इस तरह के गाने जिनका न सिर है न पैर और जिनके कोई मानी नहीं हैं यह एक नेशन के दिमाग में खलल पैदा करते हैं। ऐसे गानों को हमें बन्द करना चाहिये जिस वक्त एक नेशन में तबदीलियां होती हैं तो हमें उसको फिर से बनाना पड़ता है, लेकिन हम गलाजत से एक नेशन को नहीं बना सकते। हमको उसे सफाई से बनाना चाहिये। ऐसे गाने आने चाहियें जिनमें राग हो, स्वर हो। जब ऐसे गाने आवेंगे तो हमारी पब्लिक को जिसको कि लारी लप्पा और रम्मा के गानों को सुनने की आदत पड़ी है तकलीफ होगी। लेकिन हमें अपनी पब्लिक को एजूकेट करना है, और यह हमारा फर्ज है। हमारे आनरेबिल मेम्बर ने भगवती चरण वर्मा का नाम लिया। मैं भगवती चरण वर्मा को जानती हूं। वह हिन्दी के बहुत पुराने राइटर हैं और वह जो लेख और कवितायें लिखते हैं वे निहायत सुलझी हुई होती हैं। मैं उनको आज से नहीं मुद्दत से जानती हूं। आज यहां उनका नाम लेकर जो कुछ कहा गया है उसे सुन कर मुझे अफसोस हुआ कि यह कितनी नासमझी है। उनको कुछ पता है कि वह आज यहां क्या कह रहे हैं। वह क्या जानें कि लाइट म्यूजिक क्या होता है। हम जानते हैं। हमसे पूछिये। वह छोटी छोटी कवितायें होती हैं। वह लाइट म्यूजिक नहीं है कि जिसमें कोई राग ही न हो, कोई स्वर ही न हो और कोई तान ही न हो। लाइट म्यूजिक वह है जिसमें स्वर और तान दोनों चीजें हों। आजकल जो कवियों की कवितायें गाने के रूप में गाई जाती हैं वह मुल्क को बहुत फायदा करने वाली हैं।

मैं उनको यह भी बताऊं कि जब से हमारी यह मिनिस्ट्री आई है तब से हमने रेडियो में बहुत तरक्की की है। पहली तरक्की तो हमने यह की है कि हमने हिन्दी को इसमें लाने की कोशिश की है। जो कवि अच्छी कवितायें लिखते हैं हम उनको बुलाते हैं। पहले जब मैं रेडियो स्टेशन पर जाया करती थी तो मैं देखती थी कि कितनी ही गाने वालियां आया

करती थीं, जैसे गौहर जान, महल जान, तरह तरह की जानें वहां आया करती थीं और हमें वहां पर उन जानों को देख कर तकलीफ होती थी। लेकिन जब से हमारी मिनिस्ट्री आई हैं हमने उन जानों को वहां से सफाचट कर दिया हैं और हमने उस करप्शन को भी दूर कर दिया हैं जो कि इनकी वजह से वहां पर था।

मैं अपोजीशन से नहीं डरती। पर अपोजीशन हैल्दी होना चाहिये। मैं चाहती थी कि वह यह बताते कि हमारे अन्दर क्या क्या कमियां हैं, वह यह बताते कि किन किन चीजों को हम नहीं कर सके हैं। बजाय इसके उन्होंने ऐसी बातें कहीं कि मालूम होता था कि वह होश में भी हैं या बेहोशी में बातें कर रहे हैं। मैं ज्यादा नहीं कहना चाहती।

मैं एक बात यह भी कहना चाहती हूं कि हमारे जो मिनिस्टर साहब हैं वह इस बात का ध्यान रखें कि जो हमारी यह फाइव इअर प्लान हैं इसका अच्छी तरह से प्रचार हो। हमारी शिक्षा का प्रचार हो, हमारे बच्चों के लिए अच्छी अच्छी कहानियां और पहेलियां दी जाया करें। मैं तो इनको रोज सुना करती हूं। मैं खुद कभी कभी इनमें हिस्सा लेती हूं। तरह तरह के सामाजिक और राजनीतिक विषयों को हम लाते हैं। तो आजकल यह हो रहा हैं। मैं कुछ दिल चले लोगों को जानती हूं जो कि मुझ से कहते हैं कि हमारी तबीयत रेडियो में अब नहीं लगती और हम पाकिस्तान और सीलोन को स्विच आन करते हैं। मैं पहले नहीं जानती थी कि सीलोन में क्या म्यूजिक होता हैं पर जब मैंने स्विच आन करके देखा तो पाया कि वही लारी लप्पा या उस तरह के गाने होते हैं और उसके बाद कोई मंजन का इश्तिहार होता हैं या कोई साबुन का इश्तिहार होता हैं। तो हम इन चीजों को नहीं चाहते। हम अपनी नेशन को बनाना चाहते हैं। हम चाहते हैं कि हमारे बच्चे इस लारी लप्पा और रम्भा के गाने दोनों से बचे रहें। मैं यह कह कर ज्यादा वक्त नहीं लेना चाहती कि हम क्या कर रहे हैं और हमने कितनी तरक्की की हैं। क्यों अपना और दूसरों का वक्त खोऊं जब कि मेरी बात ही किसी के समझ में न आवे। लेकिन मैं चाहती हूं कि जो अपोजीशन के मेम्बर हैं वह इन्साफ से ऐसे सुझाव दें कि जिनसे हमको कुछ शिक्षा मिले।

Shri Damodara Menon (Kozhikode): The activities of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry are such that common people come into contact with them more than with the activities of any other Ministry. This Ministry not only instructs and informs us but also entertains us. Therefore they have mostly to deal with musicians and other artists. I need not tell you that artists are generally sensitive. That may perhaps be the reason why my hon. friend who opened the debate was rather too vehement in his outright criticism of the hon. Minister. But I want the hon. Minister to pay attention to the basic complaint that he placed before him, and that was the dismissal or the retrenchment of twenty-four Radio Programme Assistants. I would make a special appeal to the hon. Minister to consider their case favourably in view of the fact that these [illegible] had put in long service in the Department. I understand that they have put in about eleven years of service, and it is rather hard to throw them out now. We all know that the employment position is very difficult. These employees therefore deserve favourable consideration at the hands of the Ministry.

6 P.M.

There has been a lot of talk about light music and classical music. I plead guilty to the charge of having great regard and appreciation for our classical music. That does not mean that we should not encourage light music. Light music is certainly necessary and we must evolve a truly good light music out of the cultural basis which we have built after centuries of artistic progress. India can proudly claim that she has a great tradition of music. This tradition

[Shri Damodara Menon]

was built up by great music geniuses through the centuries and it must be our proud privilege now to encourage that music and also to raise it to a high pedastal. Therefore, I am certain that the efforts of the Ministry to encourage classical music and also to create a taste in the common people is something that deserves greater appreciation from all sections of this House.

I also find that the Ministry has a wing which is engaged in producing light music. The question is often put whether it is necessary at all for us to have a separate wing in the Ministry for this purpose, whether it will not be enough if we relay film music instead of producing light music directly by the Ministry. I think it is good that the Ministry is producing light music by itself and there is a branch which is engaged in that work. Film music, of course, may be enjoyable to some extent, but it must be our effort to create new light music which will be in tune with our tradition and which will really create a new era even in the history of our musical growth.

Another point I want to deal with is the Films Division of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry. The Films Division has been producing documentaries. Some of these documentaries I know have been very much appreciated, but I want to point out one fact about these documentaries. There is a complaint, and that complaint is true enough, that in many cases these documentaries are engaging their attention mostly with doing propaganda for the Congress Ministries, and also the news reels that are produced are mere Congress propaganda stuff. I want that this complaint should disappear. After all, there are many phases of our national activity which can be the subject of documentaries and which may not serve political or party purposes.

I have also heard complaints from producers that they are not given a due share in the production of documentaries, that it is very much a Government monopoly. It would be good if the Ministry can encourage talented producers to come forward and take up this work. They can produce according to the specifications and directions of the Ministry. If private producers are encouraged in the field of documentaries, I think there would be more variety and their talents would go to make the documentaries richer. This is a suggestion which I hope the Ministry will consider favourably.

About our film industry itself, there have been complaints by the producers that the Ministry is not sympathetic towards them that in the matter of licensing and censoring undue restrictions are placed upon them, with the result that they find it very difficult to get their products out on the screen. I am all in favour of reducing unnecessary and irksome restrictions, but when it is a question of censorship I would not go to the extent of saying that we must give up censorship altogether. It is absolutely necessary that proper censorship, healthy censorship, is exercised on the film industry and the films that we produce. Most of us have seen vulgar and indecent pictures produced from foreign countries. There is a tendency to follow and imitate Hollywood in several respects. I have no objection if our producers follow Hollywood in the matter of scientific technique and other matters. That is good. We have much to learn from them, but if they are out to imitate them in producing sexy pictures which are often very indecent and vulgar, they are doing a disservice to the country. I say this because pictures have a greater appeal to the common man than even the spoken word, and especially among the younger generation, among the adolescents, their influence is great. Many of our young people flock to picture houses and if the pictures that are shown are not healthy, are not conducive to proper de-

velopment of their moral qualities. I think it would be very bad for this country. Therefore, it is necessary that a healthy censorship is exercised and our producers are encouraged to produce pictures which are in keeping with our national culture and our national traditions.

I am sure in course of time the producers themselves will be in a position to evolve among themselves a standard regarding the kind of pictures they must produce. It may be possible for them to have a kind of internal censorship. That would be the best form of censorship that can ever exist, but until such time, it will be necessary for the Ministry to exercise censorship and also to guide. I would go further and say that the Ministry in its approach to the producers must have more of a creative attitude, it must be purposive censorship, so that it will be possible for us in course of time to produce really good and great pictures in this country. I am not forgetful of the fact that there are many brilliant producers in India whose pictures can stand comparison with the best produced films anywhere else in the world. All honour to them. Such pictures must come out in larger numbers and it must be the endeavour of the Ministry to encourage such producers.

Now, I come to the broadcasting section of the Ministry. I wonder whether in its effort to implement the Plan the Ministry has made itself absolutely sure about the manner in which the expansion should be effected. I am speaking of the short wave and medium wave transmitters. I find from the report that more powerful medium wave transmitters are being established in the country. I am referring to this point because it must be possible for the common people to purchase cheap radio sets. The radio sets that are now available cost much. The lowest cost, I think, is about Rs. 300 and it is not within the reach of the common people, and even the lower middle class people to purchase a radio set. The Ministry should make an all-out endeavour to put on the market cheap radio sets which may not cost more than Rs. 50 or Rs. 60 and if that endeavour of the Ministry must be successful, our policy regarding transmitters also must be made clear, because, if we are concentrating more on powerful medium wave transmitters, I think it would be possible for the Government to embark upon production of cheaper radio sets.

I have also a complaint that the licence fee now levied on radios is rather too high. It is Rs. 15 per year. If it is our endeavour to make the ordinary man to have a radio set for himself, the licence fee should certainly be reduced.

Regarding films for children I understand that the Government has recently announced some awards for the best children's films. This is good, but I think the Government must do more in this direction and encourage really good children's films. Our children must have an opportunity to know the activities of children in other parts of the world and many other interesting things through films. Therefore, children's films must receive proper attention and encouragement at the hands of the Ministry.

Before I close, I have to place some local grievences for consideration of the hon. Minister and that is with regard to the step-motherly treatment accorded to Malayalam language. I find that in the Press Information Bureau there is no unit for the Malayalam language. I wonder why Malayalam has been left out. There are about 25 Malayalam daily newspapers. I do not think any other of our Indian languages can claim so many daily newspapers and Malayalam has been left out in this Press Information Bureau. I also learn today that in the foreign service broadcasting section, Malayalam is not included. Why this omission should have been maintained for such a long time is a matter which I am unable to understand.

[Shri Damodara Menon]

One word more, Sir, regarding the Calicut Station. When I have been speaking about the powerful medium wave transmitting stations, I had in mind the anaemic stations at Calicut and Trivandrum. The whole of the Malayalam-speaking area must have a powerful station which is capable of catering to every section of the Malayalam-speaking people. I hope, Sir, that this matter will receive the careful consideration of the hon. Minister

डा० सत सुभग सिंह : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय यहां पर कुछ लोगों ने अपने को कलाकार कहने का बहुत दिनों से दावा किया है। मैं समझता था कि कलाकार किसी कला को सदन के सामने या दर्शक के सामने उपस्थित करते हैं, लेकिन आज एक कलाकार महोदय की ओर से जो नग्न नृत्य यहां किया गया उसको देख कर मैं हैरत में पड़ गया। यदि कला के माने केवल किसी को गालियां देना ही है तो मैं कहूंगा उस कलाकार महोदय को कला की काफी जानकारी है और उसके लिये उनको यदि कोई इनाम भी दिया जाय तो थोड़ा ही होगा। उन्होंने मंत्री महोदय को "thoroughly incompetent', 'first class bungler', 'radio-inactive' आदि विशेषणों से विभूषित किया। मैं समझता हूं कि ये सभी विशेषण उन्हीं पर लागू किये जा सकते हैं। यदि ये कलाकार महोदय कोई ऐसी बात उपस्थित किये होते जिससे जनता का सरोकार होता जैसे रेडियो के द्वारा जनता का स्तर ऊंचा उठाये जाने की बात कही गई होती तो मैं उसका समर्थन करता। अभी श्री दामोदर मेनन ने जो दो तीन सुझाव यहां उपस्थित किये, मैं उन का समर्थन करता हूं, लेकिन उस कलाकार महोदय की ओर से कोई भी सुझाव उपस्थित नहीं किया गया जिससे जनता का लाभ हो, इसलिये मैं उनको कलाकार मानना उचित नहीं समझता। वे भले ही अपने आपको एक कलाकार क्लेम करें, लेकिन ऐसे कलाकारों को हिन्दुस्तान के लोगों को कलाकार नहीं मानना चाहिये।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker Apart from being any *Kalakar*, I would request hon. Members to continue to remain in the House when other hon. Members are speaking. There is no meaning in starting a debate and then going away. I was not here, but I find that a number of references are made to the speeches of hon. Members on the opposite side who started the debate. It is surprising that hon. Members who make such observations do not remain in their seats to hear what others have to say. I would request the hon. Members who make such observations to remain in the House and hear what others say.

डा० सत सुभग सिंह : मैं सोचता था कि उन कलाकार महोदय को रूस से छुट्टी मिल जाने के बाद जनता से उनका कोई सरोकार होता, लेकिन रूस से आने के बाद वे केवल उन्हीं सीमित संख्या के लोगों की बात करते हैं जिन लोगों को रेडियो द्वारा, फिल्म द्वारा या कुछ बड़े २ व्यक्तियों द्वारा कुछ खास पुरस्कार दिये जाते हैं और यदि वह चीज उन्हें नहीं मिली तो उन्होंने गालियां देना शुरू कर दीं।

एक चीज और मैं कहना चाहता हूं और वह यह है कि मैं नहीं चाहता कि इस भारत की लोक सभा को अमरीका के हाउस आफ रिप्रेजेन्टेटिव्स के रूप में परिणत कर दिया जाय, वहां पर ५००, ६०० लाबीज अलग २ आर्गनाइजेशन्स की ओर से रहती हैं और वे जो चीज लिख कर देते हैं वही चीज ज्यादातर मेम्बर बोलते हैं। आज उसी चीज की नकल में यहां पर पाता हूं। इस कलाकार महोदय की ओर से उस पेमफलेट में जितनी चीजें लिखी गई हैं, उन्हीं चीजों को उद्धृत किया गया और उन्हीं चीजों को यहां पर रक्खा गया, इसमें किसी के सिगनेचर भी नहीं हैं, बिना नाम का है और इसी से उन्होंने कोट किया और जिसके बारे में अभी हमारी माननीय सदस्या श्रीमती उमा नेहरू ने जिक्र किया। नौकरियों के बारे में, रिट्रेंचमेंट के बारे में और २ चीजों के बारे में उन्होंने इसी पर्चे से कोट किया।

नौकरियों के बारे में सब को दर्द है कि किसी भी आदमी को बेकार न किया जाय और खास कर इस जमाने में जब कि लोगों को तरह तरह की कठिनाइयां होती हैं, लेकिन यदि उनकी मनोवृत्ति केवल यही है कि उन्हीं लोगों को, सीमित संख्या के कलाकारों को, नौकरियां दी जांय, तो मैं इस चीज को बर्दाश्त नहीं करूंगा। जैसे मैंने पहले कहा कलाकार लोगों को चाहे वह फिल्म के कलाकार हों अथवा रेडियो के हों, जनता से सरोकार रखना जरूरी है, वह अपने को उससे अलग नहीं रख सकते।

आज जनता की क्या हालत है, आपके निर्वाचन क्षेत्र में भी दर्जनों ऐसे गांव मिलेंगे जहां पर रेडियो नहीं हैं, और वह इसलिये नहीं हैं क्योंकि वहां के लोगों का स्टैन्डर्ड आफ लिविंग, उन लोगों की आर्थिक अवस्था बिल्कुल नीची है और वह इस लायक नहीं हैं कि २०० या २५० रूपये का रेडियो सेट खरीद सकें। इस मिनिस्ट्री की ओर से रेडियो स्टेशन कई एक केन्द्रों में खोले गये, कोई २२, २३ स्थानों पर खोले गये और उन्होंने इस बात का भी प्रबन्ध किया कि हर इलाके में हर भाषा, हर रीजनल लैंग्वेज की सुविधा वहां के रेडियो स्टेशन से दी जाय और यह उचित भी है, क्योंकि इससे वहां के आसपास के लोगों को सुनने में इससे सुविधा होती है।

एक चीज और मैं चाहता था कि कोई भाई उसके सम्बन्ध में सुझाव पेश करेंगे, लेकिन अब तक चूंकि उसके लिये कोई सुझाव उपस्थित नहीं किया गया, इसलिये मैंने सोचा कि मैं उस बारे में थोड़ा कह दूं। यह जो तीन सौ रुपये का जिक्र आया और जैसा कि मेरे भाई श्री दामोदर मेनन ने कहा कि रेडियो की लाइसेंस फीस कम की जाय, मैं उससे पूर्णतया सहमत हूं। लेकिन मैं इससे आगे जाना चाहता हूं। यदि आप ध्यान से इस बारे में सोचेंगे तो पायेंगे कि गांवों के कुछ बड़े जमींदारों को छोड़ कर गांव का एक भी आदमी इस अवस्था में नहीं है कि वह तीन सौ रूपये का रेडियो खरीद सके। अब अगर २०० या ३०० रुपये चन्दा लगा कर रेडियो खरीदने का प्रबन्ध कर भी लिया जाय तो गांव के आदमी उस रेडियो को मेन्टेन नहीं कर पायेंगे, क्योंकि १५ रुपये तो लाइसेंस फीस उसे देनी होगी और दूसरे अगर रेडियो बिगड़ गया तो मरम्मत का चार्ज देना पड़ेगा। अगर समय पर लाइसेंस रेन्यू नहीं करा पाया तो जुर्माना लगेगा। इसलिये मैं मंत्री महोदय के समक्ष यह सुझाव रक्खूंगा कि रेडियो की लाइसेंस फीस को बिल्कुल खत्म कर दिया जाय.....

डा० लंका सुंदरम् (विशाखापटनम्) : आमदनी कहां से आयेगी ?

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : मैं कहता हूं कि सरकार को स्टेट्स में और सेंटर में दो दो भवनों के लिये तो रुपया मिल जाता है, और २, २ करोड़ रुपये तो इसके लिये रेंट चेंबर्स से सरकार ले लेती है तो फिर भला इस कमी को पूरा करने में उसे क्या दिक्कत होगी, अगर आप खास, आठ लाख आदमियों को देश भर में से जो रेडियो रखते हैं उनको मुफ्त में रेडियो रखने दें तो उससे कोई खास फर्क नहीं पड़ने वाला है।

इस मिनिस्टरी की रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि हमारा मकसद है कि हम जनता को शिक्षित करें और कुछ हद तक उन्होंने उस मकसद को पूरा करने में कामयाबी भी हासिल की है, आपका अगर वह मकसद है तो रेडियो की लाइसेंस फीस बिल्कुल माफ कर दी जाय तो उस ध्येय की आप वास्तव में पूर्ति ही करेंगे। उन दुर्गम पहाड़ों पर जहां कि रेल नहीं जाती और सड़क और यातायात की सुविधा नहीं है, लेहतास के पहाड़ पर आसाम में जहां पर कोई सड़क नहीं है और ६, ६ दिन में आदमी पहुंचता है, कोई समाचार पत्र भी वहां नहीं पहुंचता अगर आप वहां रेडियो की लाइसेंस फीस न रक्खें तो वह लोग रेडियो को रख कर अच्छी तरह से दुनिया के मामलों से जानकारी रख सकेंगे, आपके फाइव ईयर प्लान के बारे में और २ महत्वपूर्ण बातों के बारे में सुन

(डा० राम सुभग सिंह)

सकेंगे, और जानकारी रख सकेंगे और उससे उनका ज्ञान विकसित होगा और इस तरह इनफारमेशन एन्ड ब्राडकास्टिंग मिनिस्ट्री के इस ध्येय की पूर्ति होगी कि हमारा ध्येय जनता को शिक्षित करना है ।

लेकिन आज उस ध्येय की पूर्ति नहीं हो रही है और रेडियो कुछ धनी लोगों में ही सीमित है, खास कर शहरों में । और कलाकार भी सीमित हैं कुछ एरिस्टोक्रेटिक मेंटेलिटी वाले कलाकारों में । इसलिये मैं चाहूंगा कि ऐसे कलाकारों को लिया जाय जिनका जनता से सम्बन्ध हो और ऐसे कलाकारों को नमस्कार किया जाय जिनका एरिस्टोक्रेसी से सरोकार है और जिनको जनता से कोई मतलब नहीं है ।

साथ ही मैं यह भी कहूंगा कि यदि किसी कर्मचारी को अनुचित रूप से हटाया गया है तो उसके साथ वैसा अन्याय नहीं किया जाना चाहिए । मैं यह अच्छी तरह से नहीं जानता कि कितने लोगों को अन्यायपूर्वक हटाया गया है । मैं तो समझता हूं कि अगर पब्लिक सर्विस कमीशन पर और जो बड़े बड़े सिलेक्शन बोर्ड हैं उन पर हमारा विश्वास नहीं रहेगा तो कोई भी सरकार नहीं चल सकती । किसी एक व्यक्ति पर इस काम को छोड़ने से यह कहीं अच्छा है कि यह काम हम पब्लिक सर्विस कमीशन पर छोड़ दें । इसलिये मैं चाहता हूं कि यह देखने के लिये कि इन आलोचनाओं में कुछ तथ्य हैं या नहीं किसी व्यक्ति को नियुक्त करना चाहिये और अगर इन में कोई तथ्य हैं तो उस खराबी को दूर करना चाहिए ।

मैं यह भी चाहता हूं कि बच्चों की फिल्मों को इम्प्रूव किया जाय । मैं मंत्री महोदय को धन्यवाद देता हूं और यह मिनिस्ट्री खास तौर पर धन्यवाद की पात्र बन जाती है अगर इसकी आलोचना करने वाले व्यक्तिगत कारणों से या व्यक्तिगत मतभेदों के करण इसकी आलोचना करते हैं । जिस प्रकार से हमारे एक साथी ने जिनको मैं एक बड़ा कलाकार समझता था इस मिनिस्ट्री पर आक्रमण किया है उसको देखकर तो अगर पहले कोई इसके बारे में शक भी था कि गड़बड़ी है तो वह निकल गया । सब कोई जानते हैं कि केसकर साहब का क्या रवैया रहा है । और उन पर इस तरह के गन्दे आक्षेप करना तो किसी छोटे कलाकार को ही शोभा दे सकता है ।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस मंत्रालय की मांग का समर्थन करता हूं

Sardar Hukam Singh: After the opening speech of my hon. friend, the task of any speaker has been made difficult and he will be viewed with suspicion if he criticises. But, there are certain duties which have to be performed even though they may not be so pleasant.

We have been told in this report:

> "The installation of a number of new transmitters, richer programmes of music, more vigorous activity on the part of Advisory and Audition committees, a sample survey of rural listening, steady increase in the number of radio licences, important additions to the news services and the inauguration of a transcription unit formed some of the highlights in the development of broadcasting during the year 1953-54."

These are very good things and certainly, we ought to be proud of them. But, I submit that these should not be the only criteria to judge whether the Ministry has made any advance and progress during the year. I should lay greater stress on finding out whether we have attracted more listeners to the AIR, whether there are more people who have begun to use it and whether it has become more popular with them. If we look into this aspect, we do not think there is much of improvement so far as this Ministry is concerned.

I now come to the ticklish question about light music and classical music. I fail to understand whether our policy is to cater to the needs of the public at large or whether we have to thrust our own ideas or our own

tastes on the public, on unwilling ears as well. In pursuance of the policy which has been described on page 11 of this report, and which says:

> "During the year under review AIR continued its efforts to popularise classical music and to encourge its keener appreciation."

I would like to know what percentage of the listeners is there who can appreciate the classical music in this country. How many of these people, for whom it is intended, are there who would follow it and enjoy it? Would it be any satisfaction to say that we have propagated it? Would it be any encouragement to those who listen to it when they do not feel themselves entertained by it? I have to submit that by this policy we have lost many of our listeners and they want to switch on to other radios and they do not like this classical music as much as perhaps we imagine. There was the evidence given by our hon. Lady Member who spoke some time ago that her children also switch on to Ceylon or Pakistan Radio. It is very unfortunate that being tired of this *laralappa* here, she also got the same in the Ceylon radio as well. That was unfortunate.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri (Gauhati): That is popular.

Sardar Hukam Singh: That shows it is very popular with the masses whether here or in Ceylon.

Shri Radha Raman (Delhi City): And therefore it should be continued.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Whether you like it or not, if you cater to the needs of the public, you have to see to their choice as well.

An Hon. Member: You have to cultivate tastes.

Sardar Hukam Singh: You cannot find everybody to be of the standard that you possess. There are others also that have to be looked after.

My request is that along with the listeners' research that we have got now, we should carry on research to find out what number is there, what percentage is there that likes it and whether really we have lost to Pakistan and Ceylon Radios. Those radios cater to the needs of the people; they give what the public want. We want to thrust our own tastes and our favourite songs on unwilling ears. Not only is this being done in the case of internal broadcasts, but also in regard to outside broadcasts; we give some good time to this classical music. Even this morning, I was told by a friend of mine that after a programme in the regional language, it was turned to Karnatic classical music. I have no objection to carnatic music. I have love for that. I have heard it. I should not say that I have much knowledge of it. I am told that it is a fine specimen. What I object to is, will there be any listeners in foreign lands also who would be interested in this classical music at all? I think it is waste of time and energy to give this classical music to those listeners.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: There are four million Indians overseas.

Sardar Hukam Singh: They are not there where it is heard.

We have reason to believe that some broadcasts of ours are not being listened to by the people outside. But, still we continue them. I will take the transmission to Europe which is carried on from 7-30 to 8-30 a.m. I suppose the whole of Europe would be asleep at that hour. But, still we carry on our programme at that hour and satisfy ourselves that we have completed that programme. I am sure there will be very few persons in Europe at that time listening to our radio between the hours 7.30 and 8-30 a.m. It would be certainly interesting to know if there are any listeners at all apart from those who have to monitor these services, or who might switch over by chance.

Shri P. S. Naskar (Diamond Harbour—Reserved—Sch. Castes): That is for the Middle East: not for Europe.

Sardar Hukam Singh: As I already said, even if we claim some right to reform our own people, by giving them classical music, certainly it is sheer waste of time to inflict this on foreigners. As I understand it—and I might say, I have reason to believe—in Afghanistan, where Indian films have a monopoly because of the popularity of our songs etc., we are now giving ground to Pakistan, because Afghanistan has purchased those goods as well as those ideas from Pakistan, because of the policy that is being pursued recently by the All India Radio. It has been stated that experiments are being carried out for producing light music. But my submission is that this is only a poor imitation of the same film music. The matter should be gone into thoroughly, whether we are really giving better stuff at all. If we are not, then we should give up this attempt, and save this expenditure.

Something has been said about the dissatisfaction of the staff as well. I might also refer to it and say that there are complaints. Certain people with a long period of service have been turned out. I have got a long list of at least eleven persons, who had to their credit, service ranging from 5½ to 11 years, and who have all been turned out. Really, this question of employment must be looked into. At the same time, we find there is a long list of persons, whose appointments have been made on high salaries. I would request the hon. Minister to go into this matter also, and say whether this was done with his knowledge.....

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: On a contract basis, without advertisement.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Without advertisement and without informing the U.P.S.C., there are so many posts that have been filled up in this manner. That is exactly my point.

Then, there is another evidence of dissatisfaction. We have got, and we have getting letters.—those letters may not be so trustworthy—some signed, and some unsigned, that the staff is feeling dissatisfied with the present policy that is being pursued.

Then, there have been many transfers which could not be explained. I am told—and I would be glad, if I am corrected and found wrong—that a lady has, within a period of two months, been transferred from Bombay to Trivandrum, from Trivandrum to Delhi, and from Delhi to Gauhati.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: She was in great demand.

An Hon. Member: In Gauhati?

Sardar Hukam Singh: One could have the impression that she was going round, perhaps to have an inspection of those stations.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: Will you ask how much travelling allowance was given?

Sardar Hukam Singh: Somebody said very beautifully, join AIR and see India.

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): That is true also.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Now, I shall come to another point. The fees paid to the artists are very low. This is a matter which should be looked into. A man of talent cannot come from a long distance, either to give a talk or to give a song, for the small sum of Rs. 15 or 20 that is given to him. In other countries, if a number of stations relay his song or talk, the talker or singer, as the case may be, is paid more, according to the number of stations he is catering to. But in our country, even if the talk or song of a person who is speaking at a particular station, is relayed by even twenty stations, he would still get the same sum of Rs. 15 or 20. This sum is much too low. In the name of economy, you cannot drive out talented persons from coming to the radio and utilising it. In that way, we might not be able to progress in with the

speed, with which we ought to proceed.

I have a complaint about Punjabi in the foreign services. I think the same might be the case with other language services as well. I do not say that this is a peculiar thing with regard to Punjabi only, but the fact is that when these foreign broadcasts are being made, there are only about a dozen records which are relayed every time. Perhaps that is done for purposes of economy, and perhaps, the singer is paid a rupee or eight annas, for each time, a particular record is played. Other artists are not coming up to give their songs. The same records are being played back again and again, and it is felt that the duty has been done, so far as regional languages are concerned.

I would like to say a word about the Films Division. The whole work is being usurped and monopolised by this Films Division, and it is an irony of fate that the whole thing should be confined in one room and under one roof. If this be the case, we can well understand what the production would be; it would all be monotony, and the industry would certainly suffer. It would be better if these films are produced, as in other countries, by industrialists. This work can be given over to them, and Government may take up only certain specified subjects, some documentaries etc., and produce good films, with good laboratory and good equipment etc. If this is done, the industry would be encouraged, and there will be variety in Production. However much the officer might be talented, you cannot expect that he would produce a variety of films, if the whole thing is in the hands of a few brains only, that are confined in one single room They submission, therefore, is that whatever work is now being carried on by the Ministry just at present, should be given over to the industry, so that we can have variety of production, and thereby the industry also can advance.

I would like to make a brief reference to the broadcasting side as well In England, I am told, there is a programme called 'Today in Parliament', and the radio there broadcasts a review of the work in Parliament—of course, there is only one legislature—for fifteen minutes every day. But here, besides the normal news items, nothing further is done to broadcast what is being transacted here.

Dr. Keskar: There is 'The Week in Parliament'.

Sardar Hukam Singh: A thorough review should be given, if we want to progress in democracy. This one programme is not sufficient. The Press cannot do that job, because the level of literacy here is very low. So, it is very necessary that the radio should take up that job, and do it efficiently. This programme may be there, so far as the Centre is concerned, but that is not sufficient so far as the State Legislatures are concerned, there is no broadcast at all about their work.

Then I come to the transmitters that are to be installed. I have to submit that these 50 transmitters were ordered in 1947. I think six of them were ordered. They began to be received here in 1949. But so far only three of them have been put up, and three are still lying idle. The same is the case with the 100 k.w. short wave transmitters, which are lying in the godowns for the last twenty-five months.

Dr. Keskar: Short wave transmitters have been received about ten weeks back. They are in godowns, no doubt, at this moment, but I think, during the next eighteen months, they will be all erected.

Sardar Hukam Singh: So, ten months have already passed, after they have been received here. In another eighteen months, they are going to be installed

An. Hon. Member: Ten weeks ago they were received

Pandit K. C. Sharma (Meerut Distt.—South): Months and weeks are different timings.

Sardar Hukam Singh: I am thankful for this information, but I must say that about six months ago, when I put a question about these transmitters, it was admitted that they were there. Perhaps, my hon. friend did not attend the question hour when this question was put.

Dr. Keskar: May I correct the hon. Member here? Short wave transmitters are very complicated and big machinery. Part of the machinery had begun to arrive, because they were ordered through the contractors. The whole thing is ultimately completed. Only a few weeks back, we got these things stored, and they have to be stored, because it is not possible to get the transmitter, at a moment's notice from the foreign countries. It is safer as a precautionary measure that we get them here, so that at the last minute, we might not be delayed in the erection work.

Sardar Hukam Singh: That is all right, Sir. But I would like to know from the hon. Minister up to what time they have to remain in those godowns on probation before they are erected.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He said 'during the course of the next year'.

Shri S. S. More: 18 months.

Sardar Hukam Singh: He has said, 18 months. The Minister knows much better than myself....

Dr. Keskar: While replying, I will give all the details.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Thank you. These are all delicate machines and I would draw his attention to this fact that it is not as if the older they become, the more useful they would be. These are most delicate machines and in inclemencies of weather, certainly they are liable to deteriorate. Therefore, greater care and caution should be taken to instal them as soon as they arrive and plans should be made beforehand.

I have now only to say this. The Administration Report of this Ministry was published in 1939. It is not sufficient that we get the annual reports of the Ministry; so far as the working of the AIR and the working of the Films Division and other departments are concerned, we should get more details.

After 1939, no report has been published so far. Therefore, the country is entitled to fuller details. So I request that proper attention should be paid to it and fuller details should be brought out so that the country might be aware of all the things that are happening, and perhaps there might not be so much misunderstanding as is prevalent now in the country about this Ministry if these activities were made known to the public from time to time.

Shri M. D. Joshi (Ratnagiri South): Sir, my esteemed friend, Shri D. C. Sharma, did not quite recover from the shock he received by the extraordinary and, I may say, shocking speech made by the poet of the House.

An Hon. Member: Poet-laureate.

Shri M. D. Joshi: I do not know whether I should be glad or sorry. In a way, I am glad that he made that speech, because he brought into bold relief by his speech the difference between the high and the low, the great and the small, the grand and the ridiculous, the serious and the frivolous. Sir, it was indeed a misfortune that he used his great powers of oratory in this way.....

An Hon. Member: Abused.

Shri M. D. Joshi:....in heaping invective after invective upon something which deserves warm congratulations. Sir, it is said by a friend that music is the melody of tune and the harmony of life. But how can we expect it to be appreciated by those who have only hoarseness in their throats and chaos in their life?

Shri Raj Bahadur: You are as poetical as he.

Shri M. D. Joshi: This applies in a singular way very correctly to the speech of the hon. Member who spoke first.

Sir, I wish to offer congratulations to the hon. Minister and the Ministry for the great strides that have been made and the way in which reform is being introduced in broadcasting and also in the exhibition of films. The functions of broadcasting are: entertainment, information and education, and more than that. Broadcasting is the means of raising the public taste. Now, if we apply this test, what do we find? We find that broadcasting is discharging its functions extremely well. Sir, a good deal has been said about classical music and film music. What I have found is that our children have been reciting not stanzas from schools, not Sanskrit *slokas*, not good verses, but songs of a type mentioned by the hon. sister here just now.

The parents could not prevent their sons and daughters from repeating those songs every now and then, because the radio was there. And generally the radio is tuned by children. It is in their hands and, therefore, practically film music was a bane which had to be stopped. I was surprised to find that Sardar Hukam Singh, old and experience in life as he is, did not appreciate the check that is put on very frivolous and bad film music.

Shri Velayudhan (Quilon *cum* Mavelikkara—Reserved—Sch Castes): He is still young.

Shri M. D. Joshi: He is afraid that classical music is not appreciated. May I tell him that songs by Hirabai Barodekar, by Subbalakshmi and by various disciples of Ustad Alladiya Khan and Ustad Faiyaz Khan are appreciated all over India? And he will find that the public taste has undergone a distinct change. But what is that to my friend Mr. Chattopadhayaya?

Sir, I am reminded of a story mentioned in old Sanskrit literature. Swans and cranes were sitting together in a conference. The swans were describing Manassarovar. They said 'In Manssarovar there are pearls, jewels and lotuses'. The cranes were also white like swans. But their taste was of a different type. They said: 'Are there only jewels and pearls? Are there not conch shells, no *cowries*?' The Swans said 'No'.

'शम्बूका नहि सन्ति' ?—'नेति' च बकैराकण्यं ही ही कृतम् ॥

Then the cranes gave out peals of laughter. They said: 'Hi, hi'. I am reminded of that. Sir, Mr. Chattopadhyaya in his enthusiasm poured invectives against the Minister. He acted like those cranes who emitted derisive peals of laughter against the swans. Mr. Chattopadhyaya is in the same position. He has by his frivolous attitude made himself incapable of appreciating the reforms introduced in this department by Dr. Keskar. I was very sorry to note the personal spite with which he attacked the Minister who has done so much for broadcasting.

Sir, to mention only a few things, I would give three or four figures. The number of broadcast receiver sets has advanced to about 8 lakhs. It was 7,59,000 last August; I am sure it must have been 8 lakhs by now. The whole world has about 15 crores of sets. Compared with that, our number is very small, no doubt. But we are making headway and the way in which the public are taking to radio listening and buying radio sets speaks a lot about the reform that is introduced in this department by the Minister. It shows that the radio programmes are very popular; people have become radio-minded. In the villages, the number of community receivers has mounted to 6827 from 5,000. In this respect, I would urge the hon. Minister to station—of course, that is a matter in which the State Government is concerned—village radios in such a way that all the villagers can gather together. I have a suggestion

[Shri M. D. Joshi]

to make in this regard; in villages the present time of broadcasting is evening time. It is supposed that when the farmer returns from his field he will stand at some shop and listen to it. But the farmer is, many a time, in hurry to return home and the best time for listening is night time. I know there is the difficulty that after meals there is no inclination for the people to get out of their homes. But, somehow or other, that practice has to be inculcated in the people and the people have got to come together to listen to community broadcasts at night time. I would, therefore, suggest that the time should be extended to one hour—which is, I think, at present half an hour—and it should be half an hour in the evening and half an hour at night, say at about 9-30 p.m.

Several schools have taken radio sets. There are about 2,700 schools which have got radio sets. Is this evidence of unpopularity of the broadcasting policy of Government? Does it support the view of Shri Harindranath Chattopadhyaya that people do not like these programmes? They may say that people take whatever is given to them. No, the people won't take it. At first there was some hasty criticism when the film music of the undesirable type was banned, but now the people are gradually coming round. As a matter of fact, people who were taking to the Ceylon programmes have given them up and I am surprised to find that even the Ceylon radio is putting on classical music for about fifteen to twenty minutes. What is it the result of? It is the result of the reform that has been introduced in all these programmes by the Ministry.

It has been said that light musical compositions will not be produced to a level to which they would be produced by experts or industrialists. I beg to differ. I do not think that industrialists are producing music of a good type. Industrialists are doing a great harm to the public mind. It is the business of the Information and Broadcasting Department to educate the public and save them from the degarding songs and polluting atmosphere. Particularly, when the mind is young, it is apt to catch all these things very easily and quickly. Our younger generation must be saved from the debasing songs and songs that will lead them astray. I, therefore, very strongly disapprove of the criticism that has been levelled against the introduction of prepared songs. Songs must be prepared and they must be prepared in such a way that our moral fabric could be preserved.

In America, the American Film Code gives the first place to the preservation of morals and religion. Whatever we may say or think of American pictures and broadcasts—I have no experience of American broadcasting but I have sufficient experience of American films—and although there is great difference between precept and practice, yet there the Code gives the first place to the preservation of morals. Again, that will be found in the Code everywhere in the world.

Shri Velayudhan: What is the standard of morals?

Shri M. D. Joshi: What we find about the industrialists is that they care more about their purses than about the morals of the people. A few days ago, Babu Rao Patel, whose name was mentioned here, himself condemned two pictures from America. He said that these pictures were scandalous. The scandalous nature of the pictures is not confined to America alone. Many scandalous pictures are exhibited even now is spite of censorship in India. It is said that American manners differ from Indian manners. Therefore what is tolerable in American pictures is not tolerable in Indian pictures. I would like, therefore, to say that in India the same standard with regard to the exhibition of films should be applied to all films, Indian, American and British, because our way of life is entirely different from theirs, and our culture is different from theirs. If we want to preserve our culture, if we want to protect our children and enable them

to know our culture, then it is absolutely necessary that the films to be exhibited should be produced in such a way that they will be consistent with our culture. If American films are not consistent with our culture, if they tend to debase our social life, if they depict a way of life which is foreign to ours and which is injurious to the minds of our children, then they must be severely banned. We must have no compunction about it. I am not mentioning only American pictures. For any such foreign picture—or even an Indian picture—we must have no soft corner and with a heavy hand we must ban all pictures that would conduce to immorality, that would conduce to the breaking up of the moral fabric in our younger generation.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have already given 15 minutes.

Shri M. D. Joshi: One or two minutes more, Sir.

Complaints have been against the censorship of films. I do not think that the censorship is unjust. I will only mention one fact for the edification of hon. Members. Do they know that in Bombay, the Film Censor Board or Committee, whatever it might be called, consists of ten lady members and six male members? If they have banned a particular film, if our sisters have said that a particular film does not deserve to be exhibited, do the hon. Members opposite want to say that they are wrong?

Dr. Rama Rao (Kakinada) Have they passed all these sexy pictures?

Shri M. D. Joshi: If my friend takes objection even to those pictures that they have passed, I may join hands with him and say they should be more strict. But, if they have taken objection to certain films, it is our sisters who are responsible for taking such a bold and good step. Our morals are safe in their hands. We men have given up our oriental manners. We have taken to European dress and we have aped Europe and America in their manners. But, our sisters have preserved the culture, the manners and the way of life in India. Therefore, if they take objection to particular films, then they must be correct.

Shri Nambiar: No political censorship?

Shri M. D. Joshi: Sir, I wish to close with a famous sentence written by Bharat Muni, the author of *Bharata Natya Shastra*. He says:

> "Remember that the audience includes, perhaps, your mother, your daughter and your wife. They must not feel ashamed to witness a scene which you have written."

It is in that spirit that our cultural programmes should be carried on.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now adjourn.

The House then adjourned till Two of the Clock on Thursday, the 8th April, 1954.